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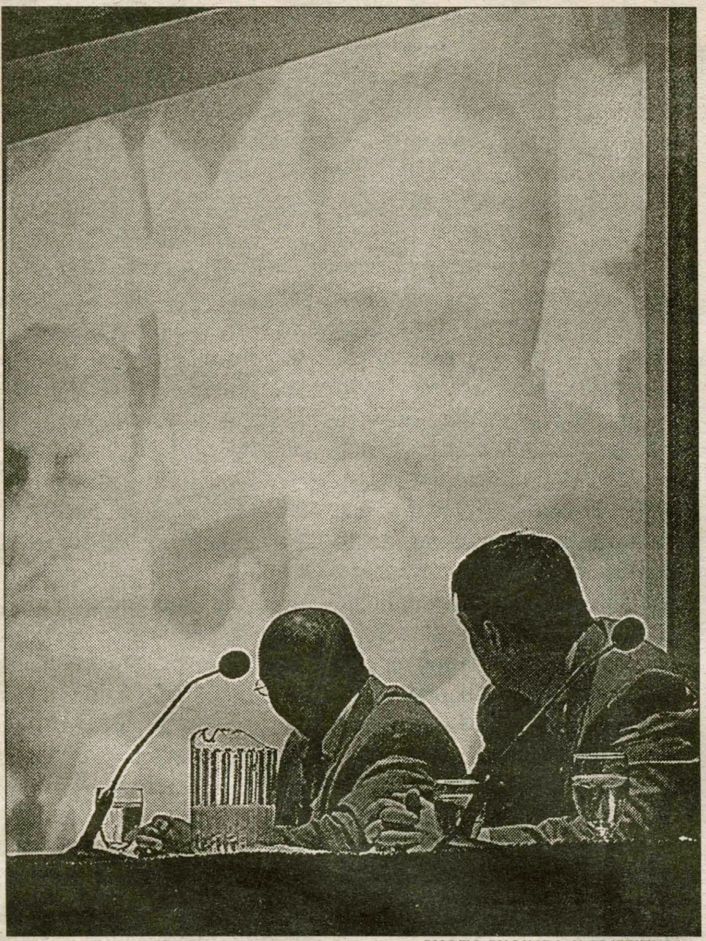

PHOTO BY LINDSAY GRIFFITHS '02

On Monday night Dean of the Faculty David Paris mediated a panel discussion that reflected upon the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. ***See page 6 for a personal account.***

Students arrested for assault following altercation in town

by Kathleen M. McGrory '05
NEWS EDITOR

Three Hamilton students were arrested on Sunday morning following an altercation that took place between Tony's Pizza and Don's Rock Bar on College Hill Road at approximately 2 a.m., said Chief Daniel English of the Town of Kirkland Police Department.

Noah Hammond '02 and Justin Stolarczyk '02 were both charged with third degree assault, a misdemeanor. In addition, Tim Vaughn '03 was charged with disorderly conduct and aggravated harassment. All of the three accused are members of Hamilton's varsity basketball team.

According to Patricia Ingalls, director of Campus Safety, both parties involved sustained injuries as a result of the altercation. One Hamilton student suffered a broken nose.

This incident follows an outpouring of noise and damage complaints from Clinton residents. Deteriorating town-gown relations have been a highly controversial topic this past semester.

"As far as a strained relationship goes, a complaint came in just like any other complaint would have come in. It's just that Hamilton students happened to be involved," Chief English said.

"Someone was being beaten up, the case was investigated, statements from witnesses who saw the whole thing taking place were collected, and finally, the appropriate charges were lodged; and [the students] will be going to court for that," Chief English added.

The case is still under investigation by the College and the Town of Kirkland Police.

Both the basketball team and Coach Thomas Murphy declined to comment.

Phi Beta Chi recognized after six years off campus

by Lauren Reynolds '02
INSIGHTS & IDEAS EDITOR

President Tobin officially recognized the Phi Beta Chi (PBX) sorority this Thursday after their six-year suspension for hazing violations.

The sorority began the application process to return to campus last semester by presenting a proposal to the InterSociety Council (ISC).

The proposal, which included detailed philanthropy and campus involvement, was accepted by the ISC. The Council recommended the potential sisters to Dean of Students Flossie Mitchell. After presenting their proposal to Mitchell and Tobin, the sorority was officially reinstated. The Dean of Students Office and the Office of Student Activities were unavailable for comment at the time of publication.

"When we recommended PBX, they showed the ISC a sound plan of philanthropic work and campus involvement," commented ISC president Dave Lyons '03. "I am happy that they will have a chance to put those plans into action."

"All societies are happy to welcome more members to the Greek community," added Lyons.

New sorority aims to diversify campus

by Kathleen M. McGrory '05
NEWS EDITOR

Alpha Chi Lambda, the newest sorority on the Hill, is currently seeking Intersociety Council recognition — and new members. The society predicts that the College will officially establish the sorority by Spring 2002, and AXL will install its latest pledge class around that same time.

As a "multi-cultural society," Alpha Chi Lambda seeks to unite women of different ethnicities, upbringings, cultures, and experiences.

"First and foremost, we want to uphold our multicultural ideals. We want to provide a place where women of diverse backgrounds can come together and find common themes, things to discuss," described Kerryann Freeman '03 of the sorority's mission. Freeman is a member of the society's first pledge class. "It is a common myth that this sorority is all black. This is not the case at all; it is open to everybody," she added.

In addition to its dedication to providing a forum for racial and ethnic diversity, Alpha Chi Lambda members also express a strong commitment to the community.

"We intend to be really active. We are going to do some work at the Literacy Center of Utica, but we are still currently searching for projects," Freeman explained.

As Alpha Chi Lambda expands its member base, the sorority also hopes to expand its involvement in the community and on campus.

"Over time, as we see more members join, we will perform in other functions," Freeman said.

Although relatively unknown, Alpha Chi Lambda saw it's inception in 2000, when five students identified the need to create a diverse group of women on campus. The group, all members of the Class of 2002, consisted of Cecilia Odoch-Jato, Valerie Jones, Halecia Haye, Veronique Gbado, and Rafiqa Alexander.

"The sorority was begun by

see ***Sorority****, page 2*

Shields awarded NYS grant

by Sarah M. Gould '05
NEWS WRITER

What began as a conversation between two professors in the science department of Hamilton College has now evolved into an award-winning project that might yield some very important medical answers. Since last April Professor of Chemistry George Shields has been working on creating a molecule that would have the ability to inhibit breast cancer. After a conversation with Professor of Biology Stephen Festin, Dr. Shields began the very early stages of a medical project, entitled "Design of Molecules That Inhibit Human Breast Cancer," that would ultimately be awarded a grant from the 2001 New York State Breast Cancer Research and Education grants competition.

"He and I started talking about possible ways of doing collaborations, and while we haven't yet found something to do together, we are working our way toward some type of collaboration," Dr. Shields said. These discussions led Shields toward the study of cancer from an experimental approach. Dr. Shields "had been wanting to break into the field of cancer research for a while," and after the conversations with Dr. Festin, Dr. Shields wrote his proposal and sent it to the grant

see ***Breast Cancer****, page 2*

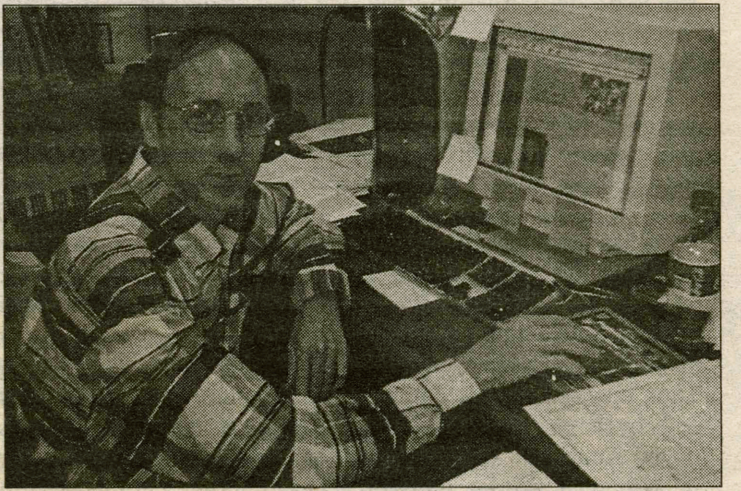

PHOTO BY KATHLEEN MCGRORY '05

Award recipient Shields in his office.

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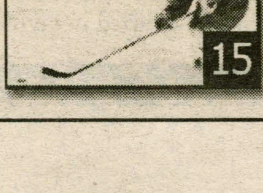
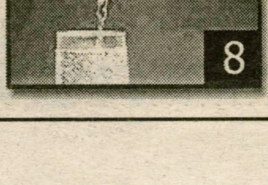


Bubbly Buzz...



Mayer's Jams...

Shields to study breast cancer

Professor works to develop cancer-inhibiting molecule

*from **Breast Cancer**, page 1*

competition, which is under the umbrella of the New York State Department of Health.

With the help of students and other researchers, Dr. Shields hopes to design a molecule that will inhibit breast cancer. The idea stemmed from the recognition that a certain protein called AFP, made by the fetus during pregnancy, may protect women against breast cancer because it "prevents estrogen-stimulated growth." Through research, scientists have found that the AFP protein can be reduced in size to a smaller molecule containing only eight amino acids and still retain the ability to prevent estrogen-stimulated growth. Because molecules made up of amino acids are not as effective as drugs, Dr. Shields hopes to use this molecule as a model for the creation of another molecule with the same biological effects that can be taken orally. The design of this molecule is done on computers with advanced software that compares each new molecule to the template of the amino acid molecule.

"This has never been done before, and there is no guarantee that it will work; but it's certainly worth a try," Dr. Shields added.

With the help of past students Sam Bono '00 and Jennifer Derby '01 and current students Lorena Hernandez '03 and Jaime Skiba '02, Dr. Shields has been able to expand upon his project and cover large areas of research. Bono based his senior thesis on simulations of molecules pertaining to the AFP project, whereupon Lorena and Sam worked together over the summer expanding on his research. Derby continued the work, searching for the design of a starting structure for the cancer-inhibiting molecule. Last summer, Lorena kept working on the project, still trying to find the right structure. "We didn't know if we were using the right starting structure," Dr. Shields said. Skiba is currently doing an extensive analysis of Hernandez's information (in addition to her own) to find a starting molecule.

The grant allocated to Dr. Shields's project was recommended for funding by the Health Research Science Board and was approved by the State Commissioner of Health. The New York State Department of Health will now secure a contract with Hamilton College for funding. Next month, Dr. Shields will take five students to a computational chemistry conference in St. Augustine, Florida: Emma Pokon '04, Matt Liptak '03, Chantelle Rein '03, Jaime Skiba '02, and Lorena Hernandez '03. Hamilton College has consistently had the only undergraduate team of researchers at this annual conference, a great achievement in itself.

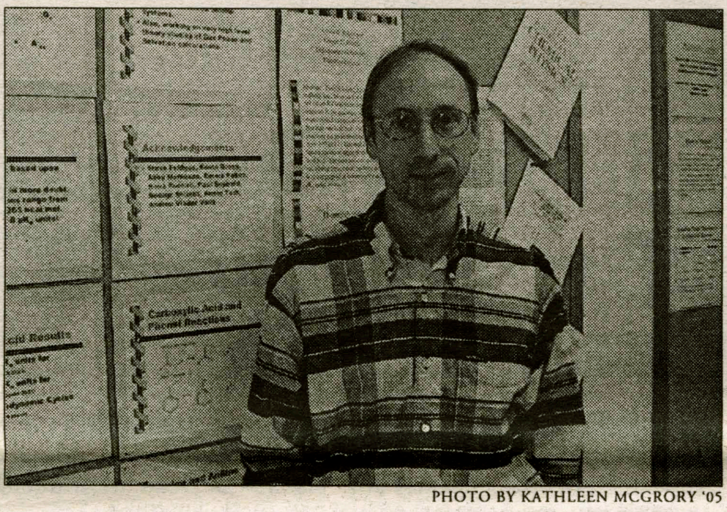


PHOTO BY KATHLEEN MCGRORY '05

Shields stands before the bulletin board that showcases his award-winning project. The display can be found outside of Shields's office on the second floor of the Chemistry Building.

Adler Conference takes place today

by Elizabeth Dolan '05
NEWS WRITER

Over 150 students and faculty gather today to participate in the annual Adler Conference. Formally referred to as the Higby Conference, named for the founder and former Associate Dean Higby DePuy, the student-run symposium devotes an afternoon to diversity issues in the Hamilton community.

Among those who historically advocated the convention was the late Professor Charley Adler. To commemorate both the enthusiasm Adler consistently demonstrated for the conference and his esteemed position in the Hamilton community, the administration renamed the convention in his honor after his sudden death in 1980. Adler, a professor of Russian history from 1965-1974, saw the conference as an excellent way to spark student and faculty interests in the controversial and pressing issues that greatly affect life here on the Hill.

This year's theme "Evolving the Hamilton Experience" is dedicated to challenging participants to think beyond the norm of life here on campus and instead explore contemporary world as well as campus issues that are often ignored in everyday life. Historically held during the fall semester, this year's co-chairs Maurice Michaane and Martine Kalaw, both members of the class of '03, decided it would be appropriate to postpone the conference until the spring semester and hold it in conjunction with Martin Luther King Service Day and Mark Cryer and Jared Johnson's production of *99*.

Co-Chairs Michaane and Kalaw view the Adler Conference as a means by which students and faculty who are genuinely interested in sharing and gaining insight into our diverse society can assemble in an intimate environment outside the classroom. "We hope that people participating on Friday come out of this experience inspired to act upon the ideas and solutions that have been raised in their discussion groups," says Michaane.

Today's festivities will open with a lunch and greeting by President Tobin. A break-down into small discussion groups will follow. In their individual groups students and faculty will discuss such topics as the impact of the War on Terrorism on our community, the question of identity and how to define oneself compared to how others tend to define us, evolving roles on campus, and perspectives on social life.

"What we hope to ascertain is an understanding of what diversity is to Hamilton," says Michaane. "The group topics of discussion facilitate a broader theme that articulates Hamilton's constantly evolving perception of what it means to be diverse."

Controversy over prisoners' rights intensifies

by Chris Takacs '05
ASSOCIATE FEATURES EDITOR

President Bush and Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld have defended America's treatment of prisoners held at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base in Cuba. Many countries and rights groups have expressed concern that the prison facilities, nicknamed "Camp X-Ray" because the prisoners live in outdoor cells surrounded by wire fencing to provide for constant observation, do not meet the standards set forward in the Geneva Convention. Controversy has also arisen because the prisoners are being treated as "unlawful combatants" (in Geneva Convention terms) and not as POWs (Prisoners of War). Thus, they can be treated differently by the country imprisoning them. American standards of imprisonment do not apply either, since the prison is not in the U.S.

On Tuesday the 22nd, Secretary Rumsfeld held a news conference, during which he stated, "The allegations that have been made by many from a conformable distance, that the men and women of the US armed forces are somehow not properly treating the detainees under their charge, are just plain false."

President Bush echoed Rumsfeld's sentiments the next day, stating that lawmakers "should be proud" of the treatment of the prisoners at Guantanamo Bay. He added, "We're continuing to protect our people," thumping the conference table with his fist to show his conviction.

White House Spokeseman Ari Fleischer stated later that the President is "perfectly satisfied" with the conditions of the prison, and that he believes that "if they were free, they would engage in murder once again... These are not mere innocents, these are among the worst of the worst, who are being detained because of... their willingness, their training to go out and kill, destroy, and engage in suicide if they can take others with them."

In the camp prisoners are constantly outdoors, though they sleep under a roof at night. Rumsfeld assured reporters that the prisoners are allowed "warm showers, toiletries, water, clean clothes, blankets, regular and culturally appropriate meals, prayer mats, and the right to practice their religion." They are also given medical attention when necessary. For example, last week, a leg amputation was necessary for one prisoner because of war injuries.

Despite White House assurances, many critics have spoken out at the fact that the prisoners' beards are cut when they get to the prison.

Fanning the flame of protest further, pictures recently released from the Department of Defense showed prisoners in bright orange prison clothes, kneeling on the ground wearing earmuffs to block their hearing, surgical masks covering their faces, and blacked-out goggles to obscure their vision, much to the outrage of human rights groups.

Regarding the political/military status of the prisoners, numerous European Union officials, British legislators, and human rights groups such as the International Red Cross have demanded that the detainees be given POW status so that they might be tried in civilian courts and not in military tribunals.

Director of the U.S. Program of Human Rights Watch Jamie Fellner recently stated that Al-Qaeda fighters probably would not qualify as POWs because they do not wear any identifying insignia that follow the laws of war. However, Fellner added, Taliban fighters should be given POW status along with all of Afghanistan's armed forces.

Critics have pointed out that many U.S. soldiers and officers who wear local clothes could be captured and tried as "unlawful combatants." Rumsfeld has dismissed such speculation, since those who do not wear identifying insignia carry identification that shows their status as legal combatants.

Adding to White House officials' difficulties over the issue, the prison has nearly reached its capacity. The demand for a new detaining facility is high, especially with numerous Al-Qaeda and Taliban prisoners still being held in temporary jails in Afghanistan.

Sorority begins rush

*from **Sorority**, page 1*

a group of black women on campus who wanted more diversity," Freeman explained.

Freeman also noted, "The sororities on campus, racially, were not diverse. That was definitely an incentive to establish another."

In 2001, Alpha Chi Lamda inducted its first pledge class, a small group of only three women. However, the society, which now includes eight members, hopes to get the word out and grow in size.

"Right now we are restricted because we aren't recognized yet, but we hope to gain more members in the upcoming months," Freeman said, citing rush events planned to take place early this semester. The group hopes this rush period will provide the members it needs.

News
The Spectator

IVORY TOWERS

THE NEWS AT COLLEGES ACROSS THE LAND

Compiled by Chris Takacs '05

Oberlin Offers Course in Dave Matthews Band

(U-WIRE) CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — Dave Matthews Band fans now have a new forum for sharing their affection for the popular musical group: the college classroom. Oberlin College, a small college located in Ohio, now offers the first ever college-accredited course on the ubiquitous Charlottesville-based jam band.

"Dave Matthews Band: Music and History" was taught for the first time last fall by Oberlin junior Tim McKay.

"I love the band. They're pretty much my life, and I wanted to share that," explained McKay. "Just kind of spread the love."

The class is part of Oberlin's Experimental College (ExCo) program, a system that allows students to teach classes for credit.

According to ExCo's Web site, the program was started at the midwestern college with a progressive reputation in 1968 as "an experiment in alternative education." ExCo is run by a student organization and typically offers between 60 and 90 courses a semester. The courses are open to students, faculty members and even local residents.

Dorm attack victim sues NYU for $20M

(U-WIRE) NEW YORK — The victim of an attempted sexual assault last October in the Hayden residence hall filed a $20 million lawsuit against New York University in early January, charging negligent security practices at the dormitory, according to court records.

The initial complaint, filed in New York State Supreme Court, stated that NYU's lax dorm security procedures allowed a "homeless crack cocaine user with a prior felony record" to use a bathroom normally restricted to Hayden residents and attack a female student there on Oct. 25.

As a result, the student is asking for $10 million in compensatory damages and $10 million in punitive damages, plus court costs, according to the complaint.

Thomas E. Engel, the student's attorney and a partner in the high-powered law firm of Engel and McCarney, said the University is clearly liable for what happened to his client.

"The plaintiff believes, consistent with our advice to her, that the case for NYU's liability is overwhelming," Engel said. "Indeed, we have invoked, in count three of the complaint, the Latin doctrine 'Res Ipsa Loqitur' which means, 'The thing speaks for itself.'"

Harvard Declines Subpoena from Tobacco industry

(U-WIRE) CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Harvard University recently rebuffed the efforts of the tobacco industry to subpoena a half-century of Harvard research records.

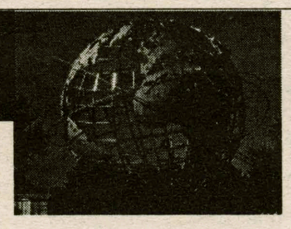
According to University Attorney Diane E. Lopez, Harvard received a legal notice this fall from the industry's lawyers asking for all the records from any federally funded scientific research involving smoking within the last 50 years. The subpoena also asked for documents on 54 specific research projects conducted by the University since 1961.

A spokesperson for the companies declined to disclose exactly how they planned to use the Harvard research; however, the subpoena is part of the tobacco industry's defense efforts against the ongoing lawsuit filed by the U.S. Department of Justice in fall 1999.

The suit seeks billions of dollars in damages from the companies to reimburse the government for its expenditures on smoking-related health care costs.

In a letter last month responding to the subpoena, Harvard's attorneys argued releasing the information would violate the First Amendment rights of researchers — particularly confidentiality rights of researchers and research subjects.

WORLD NEWS



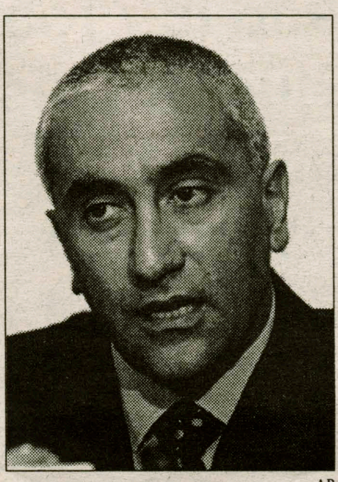
Compiled by Chris Takacs '05

Ex-Lebanese Warlord Assassinated

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) - A former Lebanese warlord held responsible for the 1982 massacre of Palestinian refugees was killed Thursday in a car bomb attack that recalled the dark days of Lebanon's long sectarian war. Three bodyguards also died.

A previously unknown group claimed responsibility for the assassination of Elie Hobeika, saying it was to protest Syrian meddling in Lebanese affairs. Hobeika was an ally of Syria, which maintains troops in Lebanon and holds great sway over its politics.

Hobeika, 45, led the right-wing Lebanese Forces militia, which tore through the Sabra and Chatilla Palestinian refugee camps in west Beirut in September 1982, slaughtering hundreds of men, women and children. An Israeli military post was next to the camps.



AP

The militia was allied with Israel, and an Israeli commission of inquiry found that then-defense minister Ariel Sharon - now Israel's prime minister - was indirectly responsible for the killings. He was forced to resign as defense minister in 1983.

The blast Thursday morning was caused by 22 pounds of TNT planted inside a car parked next to Hobeika's sports utility vehicle. It was set off by remote control just as Hobeika and his guards got inside, investigator Jean Fahd said.

White House backs Arafat confinement

AP

WASHINGTON (AP)--President Bush understands Israel's confinement of Yasser Arafat to a West Bank compound and wants the Palestinian leader to take charge of eliminating terrorism as a threat to Israel and to him, White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said Thursday. Bush discussed the volatile Middle East with his senior security advisers at the White House. Reports promptly surfaced that closing the Palestinian office in Washington was a live option, but no decision was taken.

A decision depends largely on what Arafat does about combatting terrorism, a senior U.S. official said.

No option, including closing the Washington office, is being ruled out, said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

At the White House, asked about Arafat's confinement, Fleischer said, "The president understands the reason that Israel has taken the action that it takes, and it is up to Chairman Arafat to demonstrate the leadership to combat terrorism."

FBI Chef uncertain about bin Laden

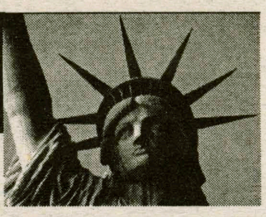
ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) - The director of the FBI said Thursday that it is unclear whether Osama bin Laden is dead or alive - and that that the number of people who know may be very limited.

"I think there's some ideas or some discussion as to whether or not he has survived either the bombing or his medical condition," FBI chief Robert Mueller said. "I'm not certain that anybody knows for sure either where Osama bin Laden is, or as to whether he is still alive."

Last week, Pakistani President Pervez Gen. Musharraf said bin Laden had a kidney ailment and might have died if unable to get dialysis treatment during the U.S. bombardment of Afghanistan.

At the time a U.S. official who spoke on condition of anonymity said the United States had no evidence that bin Laden has had severe kidney problems.

NATIONAL NEWS



Compiled by Chris Takacs '05

FBI Doubles Reward in Anthrax Probe

EWING, N.J. (AP) - Searching for fresh leads in the anthrax investigation, the FBI has turned again to the public - and the nation's mail service - for help.

Federal authorities have asked the U.S. Postal Service to distribute an informational flyer about the case to more than 500,000 people in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

The bureau also doubled the reward Wednesday to $2.5 million for information leading to the capture of whoever sent the anthrax-tainted envelopes that terrorized the nation last year.

The flyers show pictures of the envelopes - each prestamped and smaller than business size. The FBI hopes someone will recognize the handwriting or the type of embossed, 34-cent envelope.

AP

Authorities declined Wednesday to reveal details about the probe.

Pa. School Bus CarryingKids Found

LANDOVER HILLS, Md. (AP) - A school bus driver with a loaded rifle took 13 children on a more than 100-mile odyssey Thursday that ended when he turned himself in to an off-duty police officer working security at a discount store.

None of the children was hurt, much to the relief of their parents, who spent six terrifying hours awaiting word after the bus vanished on the way to a school northwest of Philadelphia.

Authorities said driver Otto Nuss told the officer that he had a gun and had brought the children from Pennsylvania to the outskirts of the nation's capital against their will.

"He said he wanted to show them Washington D.C.," FBI spokesman Peter Gulotta Jr. said.

Nuss, 63, faces federal kidnapping charges. A court appearance was scheduled for Friday.

After a frantic search by residents, a police helicopter and cruisers in rainy, foggy weather, the bus and the youngsters were found 115 miles away, parked outside a Family Dollar store in Landover Hills, just a few miles from Washington.

States get money to fight biterror

WASHINGTON (AP) - Nearly a billion dollars will soon begin flowing to states to prepare themselves for bioterrorism, by far the largest investment in state and local readiness.

Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson said Thursday that he is requiring governors to sign off on their states' plans to ensure that governors are politically accountable and give it their personal attention.

"If you get the governors focused on this, they will be more apt to see that it works," said Thompson, who was governor of Wisconsin for 14 years before coming to Washington. "We want to be sure we don't waste this money."

Congress has provided nearly $3 billion for bioterrorism preparation this year, including about $1 billion to buy vaccines and antibiotics, just under $1 billion for federal agencies and about $1.1 billion to help state and local governments, who experts agree are far from prepared should bioterrorism strike.

A year ago, before the Sept. 11 and anthrax attacks, just $296 million was allocated for bioterrorism readiness.

Thompson said the large appropriation this year offered the first real opportunity to improve preparation on the state and local levels, and vowed to make sure states spend it wisely.

Thompson declined to say how much the Bush administration is requesting for the upcoming budget year, though it is not expected to be as much as this year's $3 billion.

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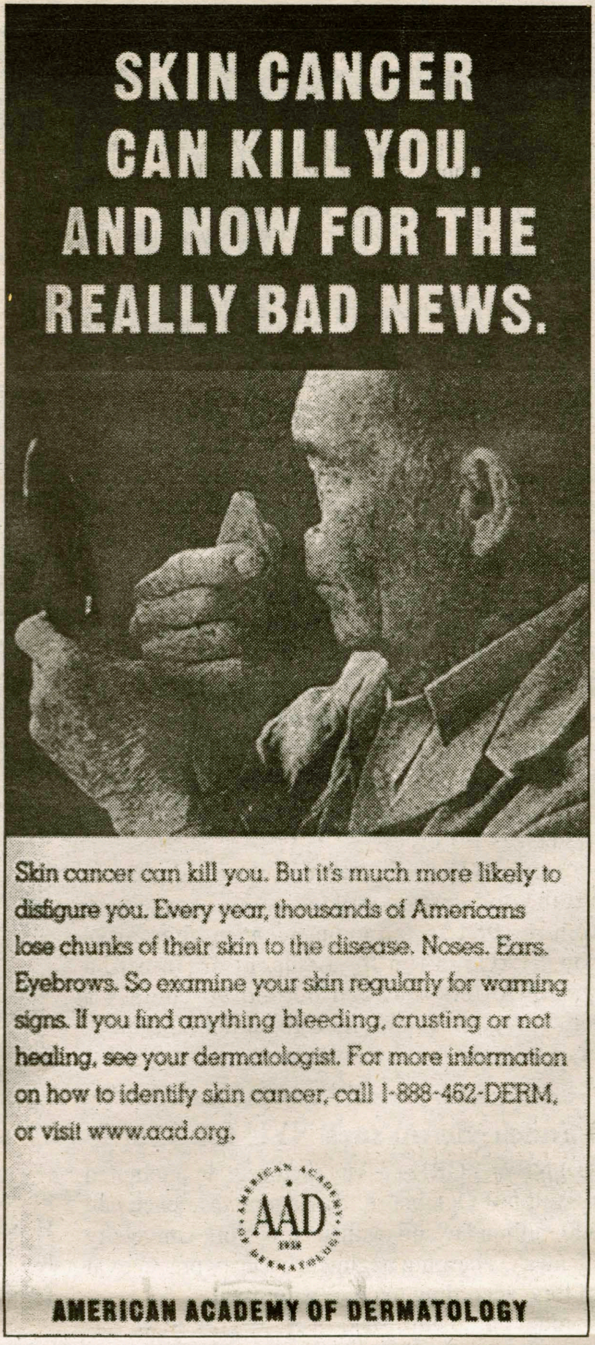
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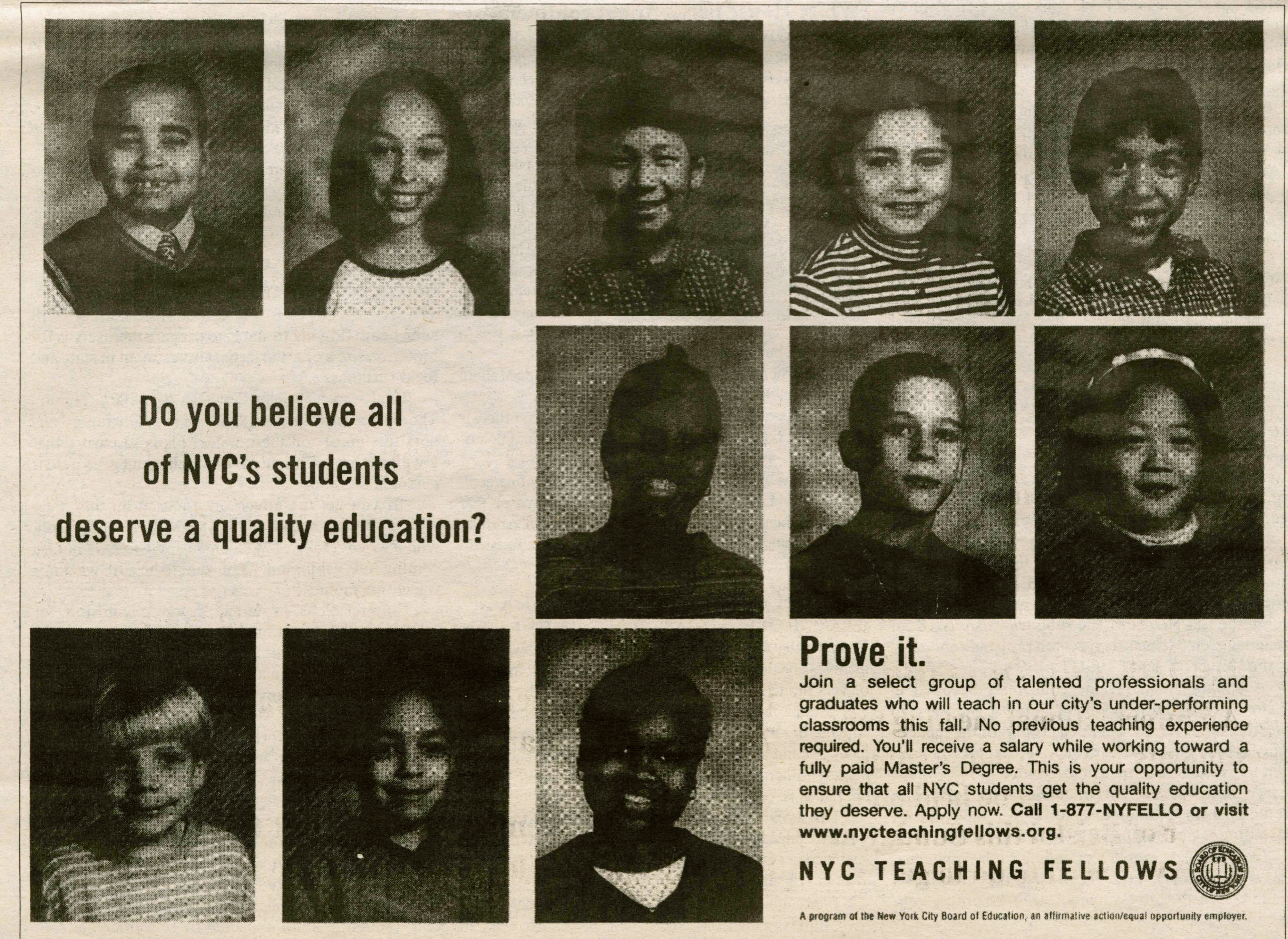
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Editorial

Throughout the history of our nation, there have been many notable persons who have shaped our society in some significant way. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was certainly such a person, and because of that we celebrate his birthday on the third Monday of every January. Many businesses, both private and government-owned, give their employees the day off, and all public schools are likewise given a holiday. State universities frequently observe the national holiday by giving their students and faculty a day off as well.

Like many other small liberal arts colleges, Hamilton does not observe single-day national holidays by giving its students and faculty the day off. This includes the birthday of King, which happened to be the first day of classes of the new Spring 2002 semester. There have been in past years, and were once again this year, some complaints from students and faculty that Hamilton does not observe the holiday by closing down all operations.

Instead, the College chose to put together a panel of faculty members to speak on the life and legacy of King. The panel was held in the Chapel and was fairly well advertised to the Hamilton community. However, the panel was sparsely attended by the student body. This fact makes our cries for a day off seem fairly selfish and does not reflect very well on the willingness of our community to honor one of the great influences on our nation's history.

Based on the student attendance at the King panel, the College made the right choice in not working to set up an entire day of events. If the College were to shut down operations, it would be impossible to justify it by saying that it provided students with an opportunity to more effectively remember King's legacy. A few extra hours of sleep would pay no respect to King, and that seems to be all that a day off would mean to most Hamilton students.

The panel that met on Monday night did an excellent job of speaking on the life of King and instructed the audience not to attempt to sanctify King. Instead, they said that it was better to view him as a person, in order to better enable people to emulate him.

Wise advice. Too bad there weren't a few more people there to hear it.

The Spectator

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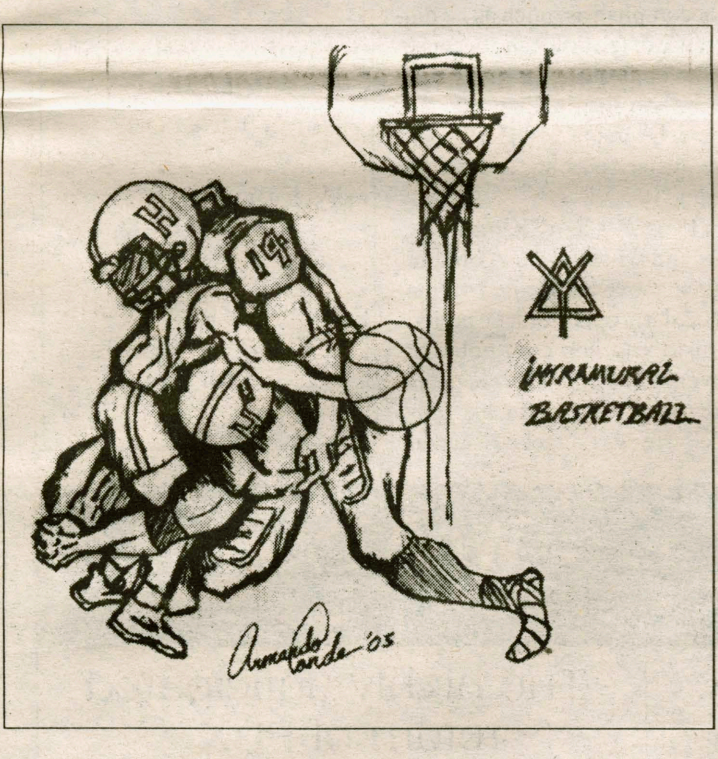

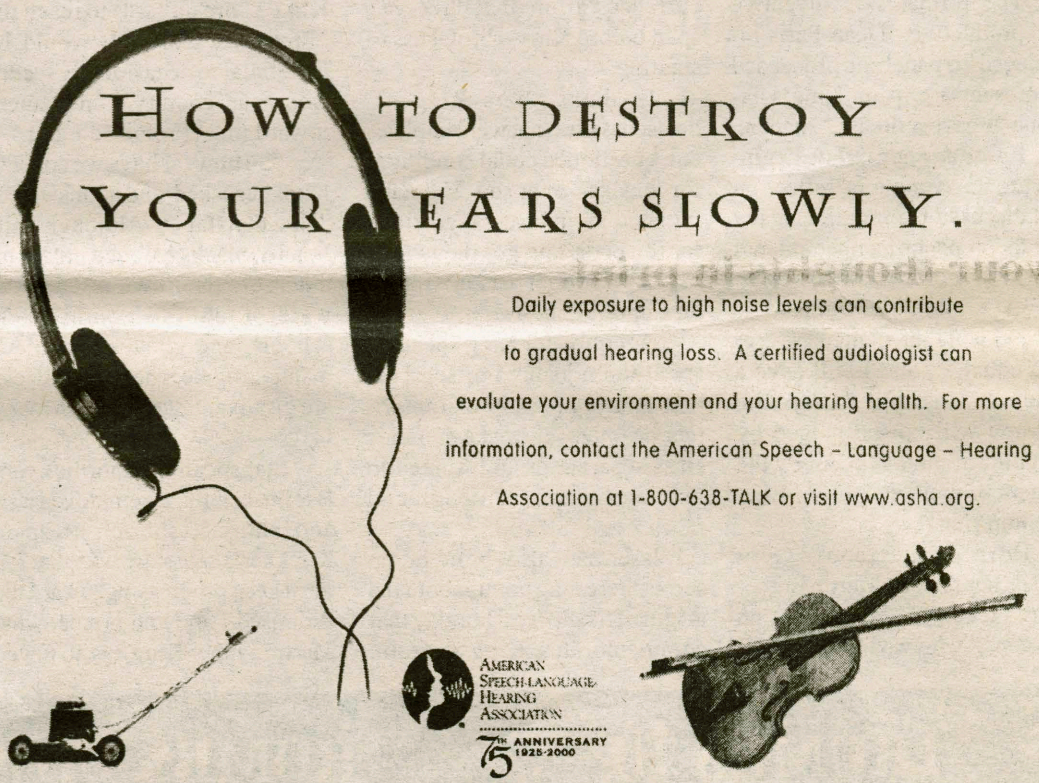

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Daily exposure to high noise levels can contribute to gradual hearing loss. A certified audiologist can evaluate your environment and your hearing health. For more information, contact the American Speech – Language – Hearing Association at 1-800-638-TALK or visit www.asha.org.

Are you interested in world and campus events?

Do you like art, science, or sports?

Write for *The Spectator*!

An informational meeting for any students interested in writing for *The Spectator* will be held on the third floor of Bristol this Sunday at 5 p.m. All you need to do to get involved is show up!

Like the sound of your own voice?

See if other people do too.

If you've ever dreamed of having your own radio show, come to the WHCL informational meeting Monday, January 28 at 7 p.m. in the Chapel.

(DJs from last semester who want to continue their shows should also attend the meeting.)

Insights & Ideas

Martin Luther King Day Panel Inspires Action

Monday was Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Our campus, for the most part, went about its business as usual. Some campuses did not have classes; they observed the Federal holiday the way public schools do.

I understand that Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is not perennially celebrated on our campus and that this year was special.

BILL CHENEVERT '03
INSIGHTS & IDEAS WRITER

On Monday night there was a panel discussion held in the Chapel. It was led by five faculty members: Dean of the Faculty David Paris, Associate Professor of Government Carol Drogus, Professor of History and Chair of the Program in American Studies Maurice Isserman, Associate Professor of Government Phil Klinkner, and Assistant Professor of Philosophy Todd Franklin.

The format was inventive and productive. Dean Paris introduced his panel and proceeded to present a clip of King's famous "I have a dream" speech.

It was an appropriate beginning to an evening of reflection and discussion about the legacy and the impact of a phenomenal man. His words were powerful.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal. . . and I still have a dream. . . that my four young children will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. . . Let freedom ring!"

Dean Drogus spoke very well on her slant on Martin Luther King's legacy. She felt that he was a man who was an entrepreneur of the Civil Rights Movement.

She said that it wasn't his ideas that made him phenomenal, but his ability to motivate people and change minds. Drogus's main point was that it serves no purpose, in fact, that it is a disservice, to venerate King as if he were anything other than a great man.

It's a mistake to elevate King to sainthood. Doing this depoliticizes King, meaning that idolizing him as more than a man removes the controversy from his legacy, creating the impression that King did not fight and struggle against adversity. Divinity inspires worship, while humanity breeds emulation.

Next, Isserman directed the audience's attention to the historical timelines that were distributed as we arrived.

The particular timeline that the audience received was from *The Seattle Times* and was mysteriously missing events and occurrences from the three-year span before King's brutal assassination.

In those years King addressed issues that were unpleasant, questioned equal conditions for blacks, opposed Vietnam, initiated an interracial coalition for the poor, and got the wheels moving on a poor person's march on Capitol Hill.

Not only did King speak up about the injustices of segregation and oppression of minorities, he fought against America's class separations and wanted to improve living conditions for all races.

Isserman also brought up some interesting points about the origin of the Federal holiday that commemorates King's death. Ronald Reagan was the man who, reluctantly, signed the bill that made a national holiday in remembrance of the revolutionary hero.

Reagan believed that King's actions and intentions were tainted with communism and suspected that King's revolutionary methodology would have brought more communism to America.

King was a revolutionary, admittedly, but who can accurately predict what Martin Luther King would have accomplished or believed if he'd lived another ten or fifteen years? We wonder what he would say about the events that occurred on September 11th and what he would propose or accomplish regarding terrorism.

After Isserman spoke Klinkner put his spin on King. He entitled his comments: "A progress report on the journey to the Promised Land," an appropriate title, considering that King's "dream" was to reach the "Promised Land." It would be beneficial to occasionally reconsider our country's movement toward this "Promised Land."

"So how far have we come?" Klinkner asked, and he answered, "Not that far." Although millions of blacks enjoyed not being outcast to their own restaurants, water fountains, bathrooms, schools, and ghettos, the black man's struggle is not over. Blacks are disadvantaged today in many ways.

Statistically, minorities earn less financially, are employed less, and enjoy a shorter lifespan. Klinkner's message was that we must keep progressing toward the Promised Land and protect what Martin Luther King has achieved for billions of men and women.

Professor Franklin ended the presentation with his comparison between King's dream and his legacy. Martin Luther King, Jr. envisioned liberty and justice for all, regardless of color, race, creed, sex, etc. As a leader of a movement, he tried to emphasize to the many understandably spiritless blacks that African-Americans were complex people too; complex and soulful people who needed more self-affirmation.

The Chapel was not nearly as full as it could have or should have been on Monday night. Again, I find myself encouraging the trial of new things, new opportunities here on our campus.

When you see something that piques your interest, remember the time and just go. Anyone on our campus would have benefited from experiencing a night of reflection on Martin Luther King, a man who inspired many, braved incredible opposition for what he felt was right, and saved the lives of generations to come from further oppression and violence.

The question that I asked of the panel was, "Was King able to accomplish as much as he did because of the times and because of the embroiling political turmoil that surrounded the era where he made a difference?" The answer was no, in fact, he created it.

It wasn't as if King knew how and when he was going to make a move and waited until a particularly opportunistic period in history to hop on a political movement. People saw King as crazy when he began his crusade. He was attacked several times, his house and family were bombed and threatened, and he spent many days in jails for his apparently illegal and seditious acts; however, he kept striving for what he knew was right.

We, as the youth of America, needn't wait for the right time to make our move. Start something now to change what you see is wrong; keep on pushing our country to be a better and more unified nation.

Insights & Ideas Preview

The debut of Selena & Lauren's "Ten Things to do before Graduation."

Each week, we'll be taking suggestions from friends, alums and YOU and writing about our adventures RIGHT HERE.

What do YOU want to do before graduation?

What do you want to see US do?

Email suggestions to lreynold or scoppock.

THUMBS UP

- DU taking advantage of break-weakened tolerences this Saturday
- The new Diner soda machine: Welcome to the 22nd century
- Hamilton's Yearbook pictures = Mug shots
- Tonight's premier of the Dance Team
- Transfers: Someone new to make fun of

THUMBS DOWN

- Having to repeatedly answer the question "How was your break?"
- Lack of snow possibly preventing Snoccer as a FebFest event
- Uncle Jitney falling through on the drunkest week of the year
- Spring break plans ruined with the Pub's new fryer

WHO CARES?

- The highly anticipated return of PBX
- The cherubic Horner rockin' the new hairstyle
- The Real World kid fueling the hookup wars between the sororities
- Men's basketball getting more press for their fighting skills than their hoops skills

by Paul P. Jones '03, Lauren Reynolds '02, Chris Preston '03, and Dan Kaufmann '03

Post-break Trauma: Finding the right words

So, how was your break?

You have all undoubtedly heard this question a thousand times during the week that we've been back here on the Hill, and probably uttered it yourself to break the ice after five weeks of separation from your beloved fellow Continentals.

Chris Preston '03
INSIGHTS & IDEAS EDITOR

We all quickly grow sick and tired of having to produce meaningless answers to this question every time we run into someone we haven't seen for weeks, even those whom we barely knew in the first place.

Nevertheless, these mindless, excruciatingly painful encounters continue to take place after each break, and the level of awkwardness of these exchanges can be directly correlated with the length of each break.

Considering we just came off of an unnecessarily long five-week break, our campus has just borne witness to the most awkward and uncomfortable social situations with the possible exception of the first week back from fall break, or any week the first semester of freshman year.

The way I see it, the awkward post-break encounters break down into four categories. Listed in increasing order of awkwardness, the categories are as follows: roommates/close friends; acquaintances with whom we have spoken many times, yet at times struggle to do so; people with whom we may have spoken before, yet may not necessarily remember their names or anything else about them; and finally, the dreaded encounters with those who spent Fall Semester abroad.

Roommates/Close Friends: While these aren't usually very awkward situations, there still is that underlying discomfort that inspires such boring discussion as to who did what for New Year's, who worked where, and what "cool" things we got for Christmas.

Upon seeing a close friend or roommate for the first time in five weeks, there are always some uncertainties, particularly for guys with other guys. While it is customary for girls to hug each other and for guys to hug girls upon greeting them after a long hiatus, there is sort of this gray area when it comes to guys.

Do you go with the straight-up hug, the old-fashioned handshake, or the increasingly popular handshake into a hug?

These are troublesome questions, ones that are the cause of a moment, if only a brief one, of uncertainty. I usually stick with the handshake, possibly throwing in a few crazy A.C. Slater/Zach Morris snaps or grips within the handshake if I'm feeling particularly bold.

However, I am comfortable enough with my sexuality that I am always open to a big, back-slapping hug. That helps to loosen things up more rapidly and make those "how was your flight/drive back?" questions more bearable.

Acquaintances: Since hugs usually do not take place between acquaintances, the awkwardness extends from the opening handshake all the way until the closing "see ya around."

Though these may be people you honestly wouldn't mind seeing, you find that there simply isn't enough material to carry on an extensive conversation, and quickly you must abort. The escape route typically consists of a "well, I'd better get to class" or the old "I'm gonna go check my mail" excuse, among other lies.

These conversations, generally focusing on new class schedules or rough summaries of New Year's adventures, are considerably more awkward than those with close friends. 75 seconds to two minutes is the average range of these shallow conversations.

Prospective Acquaintances: These are the people whom you either have spoken to once or twice, may have spoken to extensively in a drunken stupor, or those whose names you don't even know but they somehow address you by your name every time they see you.

The latter is usually the kind of person you wish would just go away because you have no desire to speak with them in the first place, yet you are forced to out of courtesy.

Observe this hypothetical scenario: "Hey, Chris (me)! How...(here it comes) was your break?" You do your best to limit these conversations to a brief, "how was your break, how was New Year's, talk to you later" status, inching further up Martin's Way as you speak to send the signal that you are in a hurry.

This, of course, never works until you have a full appreciation for the fascinating details of how the other person spent Christmas dinner at Grandma Memo's for the umpteenth straight year. Like we're really supposed to care that she cooks a "mean" apple pie.

Though these conversations may seem to take an eternity, they usually are about 45 to 90 seconds. We are all dumber for having participated in these exchanges.

Friends/Acquaintances who were Abroad: These are just plain brutal. Not only are you forced to inquire about break, New Year's, etc., but you must also ask how their overseas experiences went, what kinds of classes they took there, and pretty much any other significant events that may have taken place in the past eight months of their lives.

Of course, you are obligated to reciprocate what's been happening in your life as well, leading to what can theoretically amount to a five to seven minute conversation consisting solely of almost year-long autobiographical information.

Though it may be refreshing to get re-acquainted with this person, the level of awkwardness is still high. Avoid these encounters at all costs until you are both liquored up just enough to comfortably ask each other more provocative questions than "How was England?"

Hopefully, now that we are a week into the semester, the awkwardness has subsided and normalcy has been restored to your Hamilton social life.

If you're like me–pathetically awkward at all times–then you may still be getting used to things as you settle back in to our little cozy environment. There may still be people you know quite well with whom you have yet to have one of these weird encounters.

With that in mind, for those of you who know me and I have not spoken with...my break was fine.

Have something to say?
Write for I&I.
spec@hamilton.edu

The PDA Crisis Sweeping the Campus: A Proactive Approach

My New Year's resolution was to eat better. Considering that my diet last semester consisted entirely of grilled Swiss cheese sandwiches and mashed potatoes, that shouldn't have been too hard. I was wrong–PDA is ruining my diet.

Lauren Reynolds '02
INSIGHTS & IDEAS EDITOR

PDA, or to you lay people, Public Displays of Affection, have never really bothered me before.

However, yesterday as I attempted to reach for some carrots, I was blocked by a couple playing kissyface. Yes, they were making out at the salad bar.

I was shocked and outraged to the point of silence (a huge achievement). I walked away from the salad bar disgusted, unable to eat the very appetizing turkey surprise for lunch.

Many may not abide by dining hall etiquette, but there is one rule everyone should follow: NO groping near the greens.

> *"Many may not abide by dining hall etiquette, but there is one rule everyone should follow: NO groping near the greens."*

As a regular at McEwen, I wasn't sure if Commons was more liberal in socially accepted customs. However, the next act I saw confirmed my suspicions; as the guy at the table across from me reached for the salt, he just happened to take a pit stop at his dining partner's lips.

Please explain to me how condiments are romantic. Maybe it's the food-colored carnations on the table, the ambiance of eating at large square tables, or that special something that Bon Appetit puts in the mac 'n cheese that has Hamilton's hormones higher than Bob Dole's sex drive after an overdose of Viagra.

Does the dessert table drive you wild? Is no place on campus sacred? When will Hamilton reject blatant and unnecessary PDA? Maybe when *Hamiltones* concerts become havens for sexual deviancy (too late, they already are), or when the cement chair behind North becomes a hook-up hotspot (it has another purpose?) I certainly don't want my studies interrupted again by kids getting it on between the stacks on the third floor of the library. (You know who you are, you weren't that quiet.)

To help everyone out, and to preserve any chance of continuing my resolution in peace, I have a few suggestions for those taking advantage of the "hibernation period" up on the Hill.

1. Your room - Seemingly obvious, and highly underrated (that is, unless you live in a North quad or Kirkland triple. I feel your pain). Your own room has advantages no other spot on campus offers; a lock on the door, a comfy extra-long twin mattress, and if you're lucky, friends who live nearby who can oh-so-subtly pound on your door or call incessantly. Really, it just adds atmosphere, as most residents of Milbank will undoubtedly tell you.

2. Love Field (aka "The Love Rug") - The former lacrosse turf was a favorite among alums, but the redone grass field provides current underclassmen a much more comfortable spot. Even buried under a foot of snow, this place wins for name alone.

3. The Admissions Office porch - Although I have never personally experienced the half-way house from Bundy to campus, sources close to me rave about the privacy and the convenience.

4. The Annex - Although North Court was ideal (less space + more people = the pinnacle of PDA), the Annex is better lit, and the windows are reminiscent of your high school's make out point. Besides, low attendance at Annex events means more alcohol and fewer witnesses to any events you'll deny once you cure the Natty Lite-induced hangover.

5. The Field house - A prime spot for athletes and former athletes trying to relive the glory days. The mats in the back provide hours of fun with minimal security, and it is a nice alternative to hypothermia.

Of course, these are only a few of the possibilities on our spacious campus. Many prefer more conventional spots such as our beloved Tavern and Rok, while the more adventurous swear by Carnegie's Pac-man game.

Get creative. Get out of Commons.

Happy, happy New Year!

New study shows that champagne makes you drunk faster

by Kristin Patrick '03
SCIENCE EDITOR

Can't remember New Year's? It could be due to the traditional midnight toast with champagne (well, that and when you proceeded to finish off the bottle).

Recent studies have shown that the bubbles in champagne make you drunk more quickly than do non-carbonated wines and spirits of the same alcohol content.

British scientists at the University of Surrey found that bubbles in champagne expedited inebriation, resulting in a higher blood alcohol level compared to the BACs of those who drank flat champagne over the same period of time.

Fran Ridout of the human psychopharmacology unit at the university, used 12 volunteers for her test. For the first trial half of the subjects received champagne that had bubbles while the remaining six drank flat champagne; the following week the volunteers received the opposite kind of champagne.

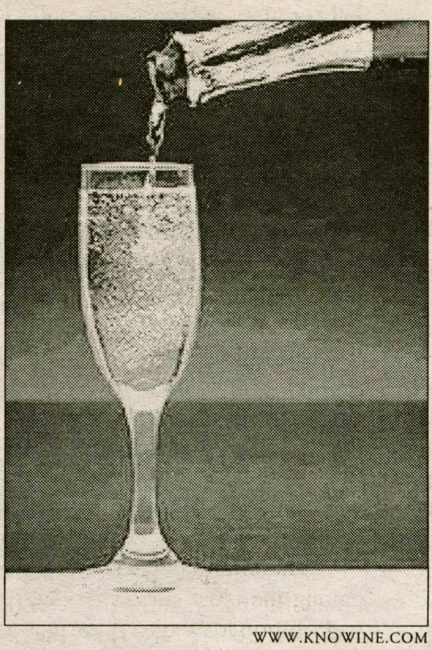
Ridout measured each glass in relation to each participant's weight to ensure that everyone drank the same amount of alcohol per unit body mass. Ultimately, each participant drank the equivalent of two glasses of champagne per session.

Blood alcohol levels of those who drank the bubbly champagne rose faster than those of flat champagne drinkers; after only five minutes they had an average of 0.54 milligrams of alcohol per milliliter of blood, while the BAC of those drinking flat champagne averaged a lower 0.39 milligrams of alcohol. After 40 minutes those drinking bubbly champagne had a BAC of 0.7 milligrams per milliliter, and participants drinking flat champagne only reached a BAC of 0.58 milligrams.

Bubbly champagne not only increased blood alcohol levels at a faster rate, but also induced various physiological effects.

In particular, standard computer psychomotor tests showed that carbonated champagne drinkers took, on average, 200 milliseconds longer to detect peripheral objects.

Comparatively, those who drank flat champagne took only an extra 50 milliseconds, compared to their sober performance.


WWW.KNOWINE.COM

Make a toast! Scientists have proven that the bubbles in champagne do more than just tickle your nose

These results, though relatively indisputable, have yet to be fully understood by scientists. Why does carbonated wine get you drunk quicker?

Ridout hypothesized that the very high carbon dioxide content, an estimated 250 million bubbles per glass, maintained by storing champagne in a pressurized bottle , somehow speeds up the flow of alcohol into the small intestines and forces more alcohol into the bloodstream.

Minding these results, scientists suggest that prudent partygoers drink their champagne from a shallow goblet rather then a tall, fluted glass. A glass with a larger surface area allows most of the champagne bubbles to dissipate quickly, minimizing the rapid inebriating effects of champagne, possibly prolonging your party experience.

The big chill; alcohol-induced hypothermia

by Hannah Stahle '03
SCIENCE EDITOR

Alcohol and hypothermia. Strangely, the two can go hand in hand, especially in Clinton, New York. While most people associate a feeling of warmth with the consumption of alcohol, in reality, alcohol can greatly increase the amount of heat that is lost by the body.

The consumption of any type of alcohol causes the body to undergo certain physiological changes that lead to a feeling of increased warmth. Regardless of the amount of alcohol consumed, this phenomenon can occur. Alcohol causes peripheral vasodilation, in which the blood vessels near the surface of the skin dilate, increasing blood flow.

This increased blood flow to the surface of the skin causes flushed faces and skin that feels warm to the touch because more heat passes closer to the surface of the skin.

This flush alone is nothing more than an annoyance if one remains indoors and happens to be wearing Clinton-appropriate attire. The trouble, however, lies in the fact that people quite readily shed this warm attire in order to combat their seemingly increasing body temperature.

When individuals who have been consuming alcohol attribute the feeling of warmth to an increase in their core body temperature, problems can arise. The peripheral vasodilation caused by alcohol actually draws blood away from internal organs.

This can cause a decrease in core body temperature, and in extreme cases it can lead to hypothermia.

Hypothermia is the unintentional lowering of the normal body temperature of 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit to 95 degrees Fahrenheit or less and can occur in very short periods of time. Individuals who have been drinking alcohol and have attained a feeling of warmth may venture outside to cool down.

The vasodilation of the blood vessels causes the heat from the blood rushing close to the surface of the skin to dissipate. The body begins to lose heat, and because the blood is not circulating as effectively through the organs, more heat is lost than is produced by the body, causing a decrease in core body temperature.

In most cases, and definitely here at Hamilton, most of the heat lost by the body is the result of convection, which is the movement of air or water over the skin. In the middle of winter, when wind chill factors can cause the wind to feel like subzero temperatures on the skin, hypothermia is of particular concern.

In cold weather the blood vessels normally undergo peripheral vasoconstriction so that the blood, and thus the heat, is routed to the internal organs to maintain body temperature. The vasodilation caused by alcohol undermines this process. Alcohol can also stop the body from shivering, undoing another of its natural defenses against the cold.

Many of the symptoms of hypothermia are very similar to those of alcohol intoxication, and it may be difficult to discern the first signs of a decreasing core temperature.

Hypothermia, as well as intoxication, leads to fatigue, poor coordination, slurred speech, and impaired mental capacity. In extreme cases both can also lead to loss of consciousness. The key signs of hypothermia are, however, numbness and puffiness or a blue hue to the skin.

If caught at early stages, hypothermia can easily be avoided; however, due to the vasodilation, those who have been drinking can seldom recognize that they are cold, as the skin can remain warm.

Men are at a higher risk for suffering from hypothermia than women are because women tend to have more body fat to keep them warm longer. Also, individuals who are tall and thin, thus having more surface area on their bodies in proportion to their body masses, are at particular risk.

While hypothermia is a serious risk for people who are drinking, wearing appropriately warm clothing when venturing outdoors can easily combat the problem. Wear a scarf to the next Bundy party, and you should be fine.

The science section needs writers

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Features

Model EU participants negotiate nation inclusion

by Phillip Hadji '04
FEATURES WRITER

Fourteen students from the Model European Union Club traveled to the University of Economics in Prague over winter break to participate in a European Union simulation. The Model EU is a club that meets throughout the year to discuss European politics and prepare for conferences.

Students from both prestigious American universities such as Columbia, Cornell, Colgate, and Skidmore and European Universities in the Netherlands, Britain, Finland, Turkey, Bulgaria, Belgium, Germany, and Greece attended the conference.

"This is Hamilton's 14th year as participant in the model EU," noted faculty advisor Alan Cafruny. Hamilton is one of the few schools that have not missed a conference in the last 14 years.

"It is important to learn about the EU, which is a novel and highly significant entity in world politics. The simulation also provides an opportunity to meet other students, not only from New York State, but also from various European universities," noted Cafruny.

"Our students have a good background in European politics, and they are talented public speakers. Once again, this year they were among the leading delegations," added Cafruny.

Joe Livingston '02 and Lindy Roath '02, the heads of the club, organized the trip.

"Fundraising was a significant challenge," according to Livingston, "though in the end we were able to support 14 students, which was quite a success."

Prior to attending the conference, students conducted independent research in order to prepare for the conference's topic of European Union expansion.

"Hamilton students are often among the most persuasive and well-informed within the various committees," commented Joe Livingston '02. The research they do in preparation for the conference gives them an edge.

Livingston '02 has been to three conferences and was pleased that "this year seemed to be more organized and focused."

Hamilton students were assigned the role of representing Portugal at the conference. Students negotiated the terms of accession for European Union candidate countries. Byron Miller '02 was the head of government, Livingston was the Defense Minister, and Lindy Roath '02 was the Coreper.

Jarell Price '04, Philip Hadji '04, Bill Piontek '02, Brendan O'Donoghue '04, Emily Richardson '03, Lauren Berg '04, Li Qi '03, Samir Terko '02, Matt Zeller '04, Sean Fair '03, and Jakub Sroubek '05 were on negotiating teams representing the EU and candidate countries.

Brendan O'Donoghue '04 had the role of Deputy Chief Negotiator for the European Union's panel on Romania. He spent the conference considering Romania's case for entering the European Union.

"I was amazed that the Czech Republic, which had also had over 40 years of communism, was doing so well compared to Romania. It is only possible to have such intimate knowledge when you actually go to the areas you are studying. It brings it all to life," said O'Donaghue

In addition to negotiating EU accession terms, students also listened to expert witnesses offer their opinions on some of the latest developments in EU expansion.

Jakub Sroubek '05 had the unique perspective of being from Prague. Members of the group often turned to him for a foreign perspective on issues. As a citizen of the Czech Republic, he has personally witnessed the changes his country has made to meet the European Union's criteria for entering the union.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PHILLIP HADJI '04

Model EU group members with faculty advisor Professor Cafruny at the closing reception following the simulation. "I left the conference feeling that I had learned quite a bit more about the future of a unified Europe in terms of common security and defense," commented Joe Livingston '02.

The conference concluded with an evening reception and closing ceremonies in which all participants were honored for their hard work.

"I left the conference feeling that I had learned quite a bit more about the future of a unified Europe in terms of common security and defense. It is also wonderful to interact with peers from European countries and to hear their perspectives and slants on different issues," noted Livingston.

Next fall the club plans to attend another conference at the State University of New York College at Fredonia.

Fresh snow offers plethora of outdoor activities

by Patrick Danaher '04
FEATURES WRITER

After anticipating (or dreading) its reappearance all break, students returned to campus this semester to find that winter had at long last arrived in Clinton. Despite this winter's unusual mildness, snow sports and snow problems have returned to Hamilton.

This winter has been warm all across the northern United States; in Wisconsin a town had to use snowmaking devices to hold a winter festival, the world's largest ice-fishing contest was canceled in Minnesota due to a lack of ice, and Hamilton students finished their Fall semester without snow on the ground.

The light snowfall has not gone unnoticed. Snow lovers impatient for winter to arrive told tales of heartbreak and hope. "I spent part of break traveling around New England looking for enough snow to ski," said Jenny Cleary '02. "I couldn't really find any fine conditions and made do with the little bit of snow I could find in Northern New Hampshire and the Adirondacks."

Those who lamented the lack of snow and the outdoor entertainment it affords no longer need despair, though; myriad little-publicized winter sports are available to the Hamilton community through the outing club and other campus organizations.

The Nordic Skiing Club, a little-known but active group, goes skiing in the Glen and on the golf course about three times a week. Advanced skiers provide coaching for beginners, said club faculty advisor Onno Oerlemans. For more technical skiing the club also takes weekend trips to Salmon Hills, a nearby cross-country ski resort. Occasionally, they plan longer trips to bigger resorts in New England and Canada.

The Hamilton Outing Club, located in the basement of Benedict and open Monday and Thursday nights from 7 to 9 p.m., also organizes various trips. Although there are generally fewer camping opportunities through HOC during the winter, the club remains active, leading trips ranging from snowshoe day-trips to more rugged snow-camping overnighters. Outings, open to anyone in the Hamilton community, occur whenever a trained HOC leader decides to organize and lead a trip.

By becoming a member for $10, you can also borrow snow and camping gear for independent trips. Although their limited supply of snowshoes is usually entirely lent out, HOC has a great number of cross-country skis available to anyone on campus. A deposit of $60 gets free skis, boots, and poles for the season.

Hamilton's adventure program, run by Andrew Jillings, also maintains an ice-climbing wall during the winter. Last winter it failed to freeze all the way to the ground, leaving it unstable and dangerous, and thus closed. This year the wall is "still in the pipes," said Jillings, "although once the temperature gets cold and stays cold, it will be opened. The wall is open to the public, and equipment and training are supplied."

Rather than enjoying the winter, Physical Plant keeps the snow on campus at bay. Winter costs the campus a large amount of money, mainly by necessitating the heating of buildings and the removal of snow from paths and roads. The big dark side dorm windows provide poor insulation, driving heating costs up. "The warm winter has saved us considerable energy bills," said Physical Plant Assistant Director Terry Hawkridge. But, "because the energy bills lag behind the weather, it is too early to predict energy savings."

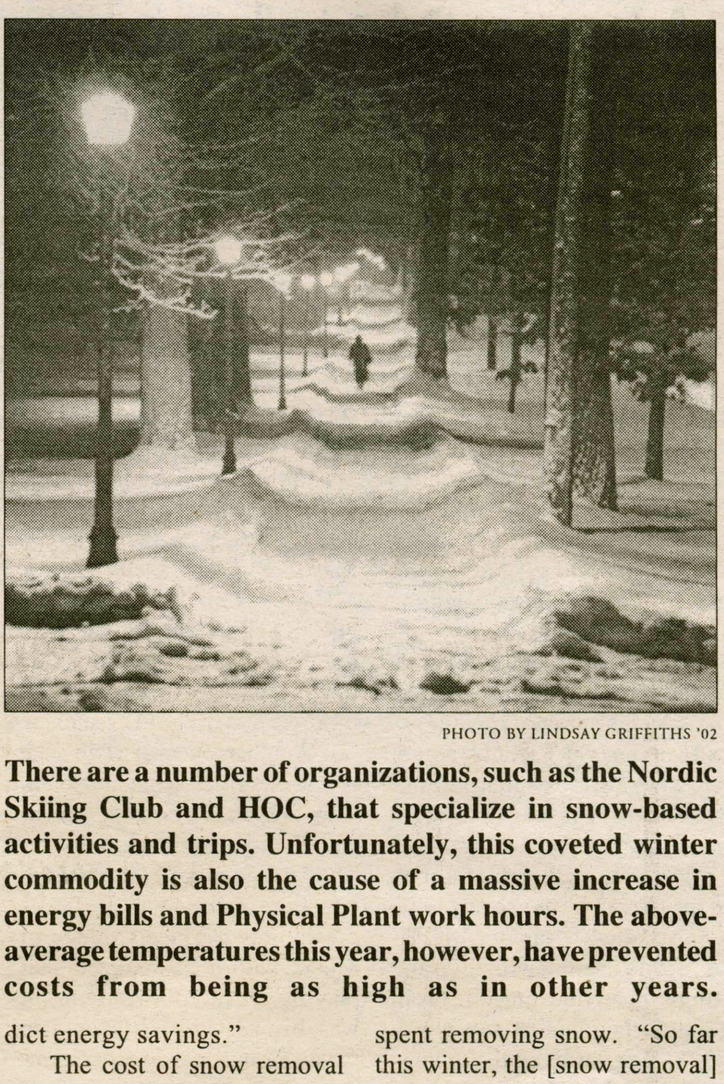


PHOTO BY LINDSAY GRIFFITHS '02

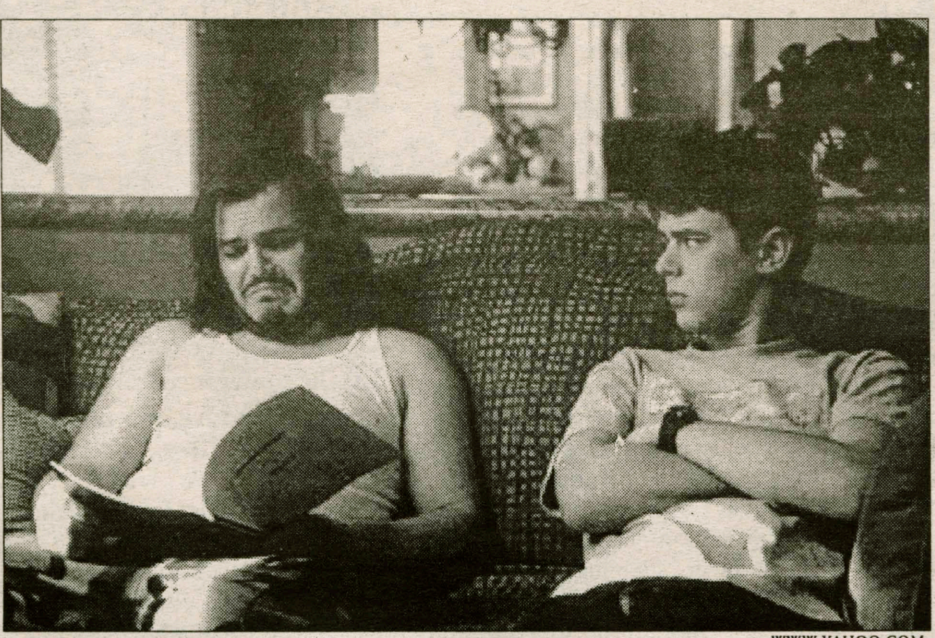
There are a number of organizations, such as the Nordic Skiing Club and HOC, that specialize in snow-based activities and trips. Unfortunately, this coveted winter commodity is also the cause of a massive increase in energy bills and Physical Plant work hours. The above-average temperatures this year, however, have prevented costs from being as high as in other years.

The cost of snow removal has also plummeted this year, Hawkridge said. The main cost subject to significant fluctuations is the number of overtime hours spent removing snow. "So far this winter, the [snow removal] crew has worked 31.5 hours of overtime," said Hawkridge. "Last January alone, the crew worked 222 hours."

Orange County is refreshing

Darcy Lewis '02 reviews this so-called teen flick.

The initial rush of new 90s teen movies has finally worn off. All of the teenybopper movie fare is wearing on the public, even though the verdict is still out on the rash of pop icon films like Britney Spear's, *Crossroads* and Mandy Moore's *A Walk to Remember*. Moviegoers are tired of whiny brats going through small crises like how to be a better cheerleader or some such nonsense. With the new film *Orange County*, movies take a step closer to those wonderful breakthrough films by Cameron Crowe and John Hughes back in the eighties. Echoes of such classics as *Fast Times at Ridgemont High, The Breakfast Club, One Crazy Summer*,and *Say Anything* filter through the story line and environment surrounding a young guy named Shaun Brumder. Brumder is an overachieving high school senior from California whose dream of getting into Stanford becomes an obsession and a quest when an out-to-lunch guidance counselor (Lily Tomlin) accidentally sends the wrong transcript to the college.



WWW.YAHOO.COM

Jack Black and Colin Hanks play brothers in *Orange County*. See the resemblance?

Shaun is a kid with a seriously dysfunctional family. His mother, played by Catherine O'Hara (*Best in Show, Beetlejuice*), is an alcoholic in a perpetual nervous breakdown, his stepfather is a geriatric, and his older brother, played by Jack Black (*Shallow Hal, High Fidelity*), is a screw-up who is always recovering from the night before. Shaun's life is a constant frustration; he must deal with a seriously weird English teacher, his family, his girlfriend (his one real rock), and his recently alienated friends. Shaun is upset with his lot in life, and he believes that Stanford can turn him into a first-class writer, separating him from his less-than-satisfying home life.

Orange County is a film of second generations. Colin Hanks, the oldest son of Tom Hanks, plays Shaun with exciting freshness. Colin has been in a few films, such as *Get Over It*, occupying a supporting role each time, and the Tom Hanks produced miniseries "Band of Brothers." In this movie he really steps into his father's shoes, playing Shaun with a straight-laced wit that is very much reminiscent of his dad. He displays such helpless outrage at the wrong turns that are inflicted upon him throughout the film that one cannot help thinking of Tom Hanks in a film like *A League of Their Own*, shaking his fist in frustration. Schuyler Fisk, the daughter of Sissy Spacek, plays Shaun's faithful, no-nonsense girlfriend Ashley. Hanks and Fisk play off each other well, and it is clear that both have picked up a great deal from their parents. Yet another second generation is present in the film's director, Jake Kasdan. Son of Lawrence Kasdan, who directed such classics as *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and *The Big Chill*, Jake directs the movie with a simple straightforwardness that is refreshing.

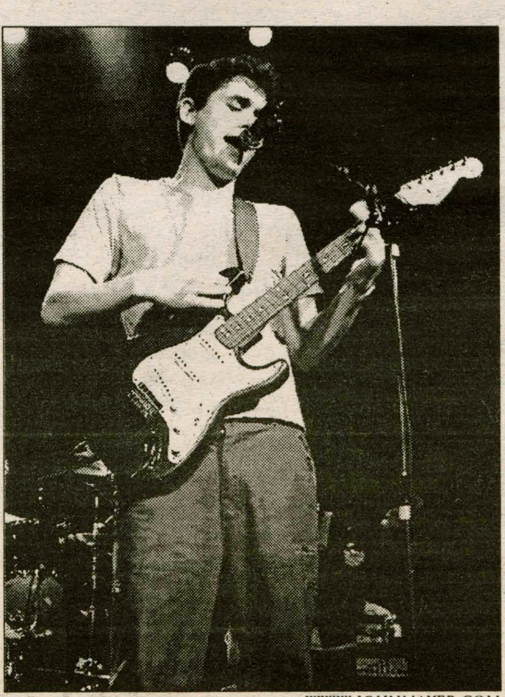
There is just enough gross-out humor to classify this film as one of the teen comedies flooding the Cineplex these past few years, but there is a heart to this movie that is absent from similar films in the genre. Cameron Crowe and John Hughes would be proud of this new effort, showcasing the awkwardness of the transition from teen to adult, and the mixed feelings we always have about the places where we grow up.

Music Notebook

by Michael O'Leary '04

Why are critics so hard on John Mayer? Amazon.com writer Ricky Wright has called Mayer's album, *Room for Squares*, a pep talk to and advertisement for himself that "comes off less like a commiserating friend than a blabbermouth who's forever forgetting there's someone else in the room." Perhaps critics are hard on him because it is easy to criticize someone who shows as much promise and talent as Mayer does. *Room for Squares* is an odyssey that explores the thoughts of a man in his twenties who seems to be going through a "quarter-life crisis" while dealing with love and struggling to find himself. From voicing thoughts of self-worth ("Well I never lived the dreams of the prom kings/ And the drama queens/ I'd like to think the best of me/ Is still hiding up my sleeve") to depicting a modern relationship ("2 a.m., I swear I might propose/ But we close the tab/ Split a cab/ And call each other up when we get home/ Falling asleep to the sound of sirens/ I've got a city love"), Mayer may not be the most poetic singer-songwriter, but for a young artist releasing his first major-label album, he deserves more credit than he has recieved.

Another aspect of Mayer that is lost on critics is his musicianship. Mayer is a far better musician than he is given credit for. The bluesy guitar player was at one time enrolled in Boston's prestigious Berklee College of Music before he realized that playing music, not studying it, was his passion. Mayer also payed his musical dues performing at blues and songwriters' nightspots in Connecticut and Georgia, including the famed *Eddie's Attic* in Atlanta. The goal, according to Mayer, is "to be listenable and play tunes that other people could play but not the way I play them."



WWW.JOHNMAYER.COM

John Mayer's stage show is quickly earning him a loyal following.

Although often criticized for trying to be Dave Matthews, Mayer is a better singer and plays a completely different style of guitar than does Matthews. His band, which is dominated and driven by his excellent guitar-playing, floats easily through complex songs filled with key changes and contrasting styles, resulting in an album that is from start to finish simply excellent. It is at the same time complex and catchy, worthy of appreciation from musicians but still accessible to listeners. In the genre of the singer-songwriter, where trite and gimmicky artists such as Pat McGee and Howie Day have found success, Mayer follows the lead of David Gray and (at times) Dave Matthews in keeping the field fresh and worthy of quality artists. This is why some critics are turned off by John Mayer: from the very first chord on this phenomenal debut, it is easy to expect more from such a promising talent.

Don't worry, there is a lot more yet to come from this young artist; and as far as debuts go, it is the best I've heard in years.

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Artsy Fartsy

"It's all in the mind." -George Harrison

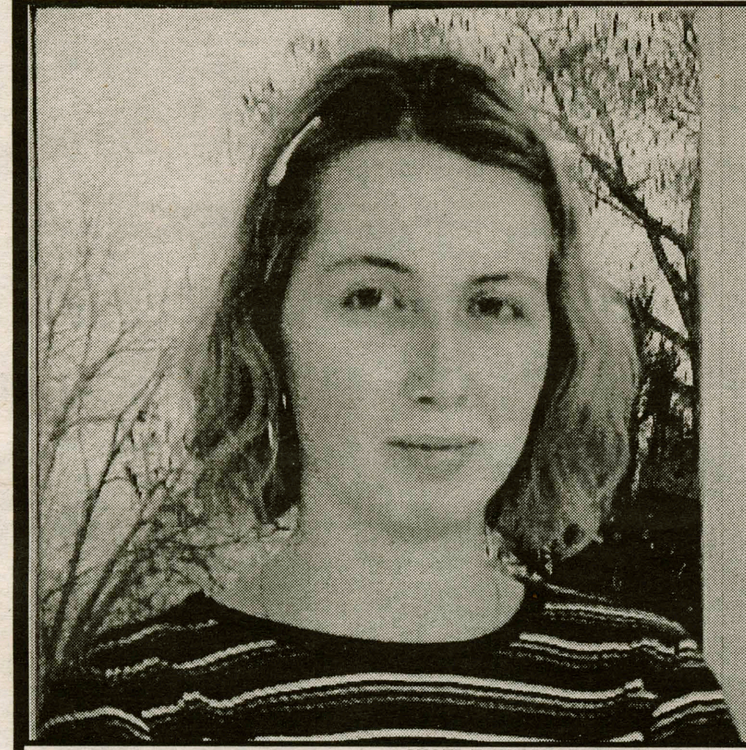

PHOTO TAKEN BY CHRIS FOGELSTROM '03

Lily Trenkova '04 is a theater production major from Sofia, Bulgaria. Music and Art are her two greatest passions. When she's not playing the guitar or the piano, she paints glass bottles (she designed last year's FebFest poster!). She hopes to be a set designer and is the production manager for the theater deptartment's upcoming show. This week she shares a few thoughts with Chris Fogelstrom '03.

Why Hamilton?
I picked it out of a hat, so to speak, and my cousin went here.

Sangertown Square Mall. Thoughts?
I can never find pants! They are either huge or too small. I've tried all of them!

McEwen or Commons?
McEwen, because the salad is washed. There are more vegetarian options as well.

Favorite theater production of all time?
The production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* that I saw at the Sofia National Theater in Bulgaria.

Biggest musical influences?
Radiohead! *Floyd*, *Beatles*, and *Led Zepplin* are the other three greatest bands, but *Radiohead* is my favorite.

Best class at Hamilton?
Pottery, because it's all up to you. You have more responsibility for what your work comes out like. Plus, I didn't worry about my grades as much.

Favorite movie?
The Muppet Movie, because muppets are funny! I liked *Million Dollar Hotel* too. *Bono* co-wrote it, I think. *Dancer in the Dark* is good too, but I could never see it again– too sad!

Any famous last words? "It's all in the mind"–George Harrison from *Yellow Submarine*

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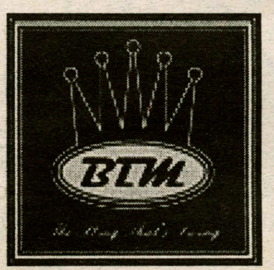

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Band Performs @ ***8:00***

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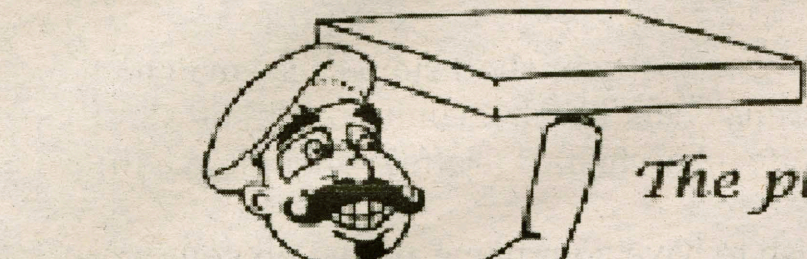

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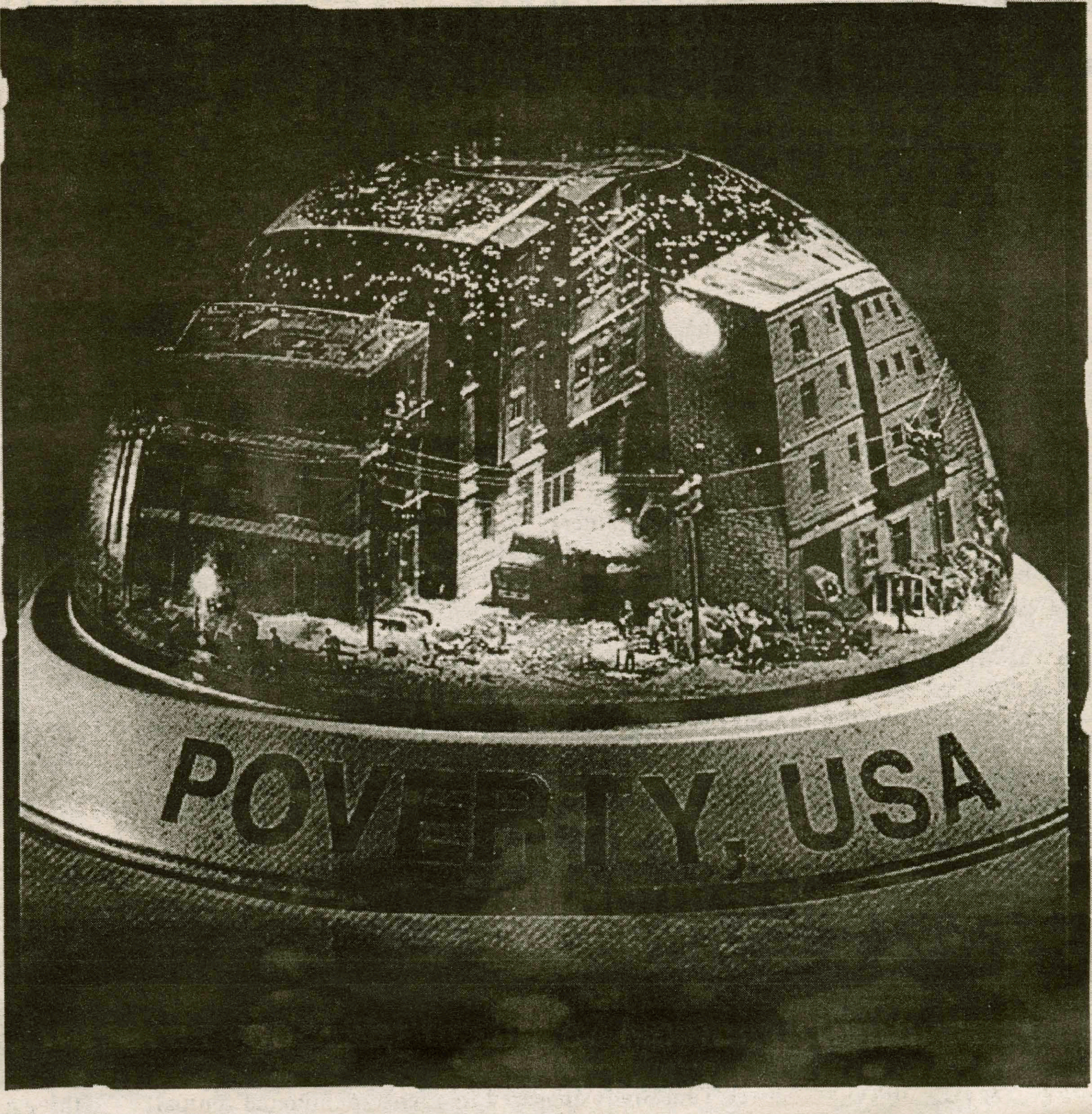

Photograph by Timothy White

Which one would you choose?

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A Wild and Wooly Weekend in the NFL Playoffs

Six Ints, McNabbffense, Plague gets cured, Snow Day!, Amos Who?

ANDY HORNER '03
MANAGING EDITOR

Well, that didn't go quite as planned, now did it?

The second round of the 2002 NFL playoffs certainly promised to be exciting, and with four seemingly evenly matched up games over the course of two days, the weekend looked like it might just be a football fan's heaven on earth.

In the first game of the weekend, the Donovan McNabb-led Philadelphia Eagles were supposed to swoop into Soldier Field in Chicago for one of those old-fashioned, grind-it-out play-off classics.

Instead, the team from the City of Brotherly Love flew in on a fully loaded AC-130 gunship named McNabb.

Accounting for 299 of the 336 yeards that the Eagles gained against a suddenly sloppy Bears defense, McNabb seemed to pack enough offensive firepower to wipe out four or five small nations.

The burly, old-school Brian Urlacher was helpless to stop the McNabbfense, er, that's offense, of the Eagles. Result: Bears get mowed down, 33-19.

It wouldn't be an NFL playoff weekend if there wasn't some crazy controversy that all of us armchair quarterbacks can spend the week arguing over.

This weekend, such a controversy was provided in spades courtesy of the Patriots and the Raiders.

Oakland, had to leave its beloved Black Hole and trek to the White Hole, also known as Foxboro Stadium.

Neither Raiders coach John Gruden nor Patriots coach Brian Billick chose to attach snowplows onto the front of their offensive linemen, though they certainly could have used them.

A game that was played at least 3 inches deep in snow throughout ended up coming down to a final possession by the Patriots in regulation.

Driving down the field in a desparate attempt to tie up the game at 13, Pats quarterback Tom Brady appeared to fumble the football as Raiders Pro Bowl cornerback Charles Woodson (the two were college teammates at Michigan) sacked him on a daring blitz.

The play, initially recovered by the Raiders and ruled a fumble, appeared to seal the deal and the Raiders began to slipping through the snow joyfully.

However, the mysterious, heavenly booth called down to the field and the call was reviewed by the referees/snowmen.

The result of the review was that the snowmen decided that Brady's arm had actually been moving forward (although it seemed obvious that his arm was moving forward in order to tuck the ball at his side), and thus the play was actually an incomplete pass.

Due to an unforgiving rule, and a fair call based on that rule, the Pats survived, kicker Adam Vinatieri got to play hero twice, and the Pats hit the Raiders with one of those snowballs with ice inside, taking the game 16-13 in overtime.

On Sunday, the first game was billed to be another example of smash-mouth, defense-dominated football.

The Ravens, with their suddenly once-again-terrifying Purple Plague of a defense, and the Steelers, sporting the Steel Curtain 2002, were supposed to kill each other in the trenches and do lots of punting.

Instead, the always unpredictable Steelers revealed that Jerome Bettis would be unavailable for the billionth straight week due to a flat tire (those tires are, after all, carrying around an awful lot of "Bus"), and inserted backup runningback Amos Zereoue to start against one of the toughest run defenses ever assembled.

If you hadn't heard of Amos, don't worry, not many beyond my uncle Joe (a Steelers diehard from Queens, NY) had.

That was before he led Pittsburg with 63 yards on the ground, and he called his buddies through the heart of the Plague with him.

The Steelers ran right over Ray Lewis and his thugs for an astonishing 154 yards. That was that, as the Ravens couldn't even gain that much overall, and the Steelers cruised, 27-10.

Oh boy. What a finale to this weekend. Those other three games were just the appetizers, man. At 7PM Eastern Standard Time, fans around the country turned on their boob tubes to witness what would undoubtedly be a shootout of incredible proportions.

St. Louis and Greenbay. We're talking a combined score into the millions here, right?

Despite what that luckiest of morons Mike Martz (figurehead coach of the nearly invinceable Rams) said about his defense, we all knew better.

We knew Packers quarterback Brett Favre (that's pronounced Fah-vreh) would be able to sling his bullets straight through whatever soft Ram defender dared to get near his teammate/targets. Wouldn't he?

As it turns out, he would not. The Rams defense must have put on bulletproof vests before the game, because they showed no fear in playing the Packers route-runners with astonishing aggression.

They intercepted the human machine gun a breathtaking six times, and returned three of these picks for touchdowns.

That was it, right there. 21 points off turnovers.

The Rams' defensive unit alone would have beaten the Pack.

Of course, Kurt Warner would have none of that, and he led the most ridiculous show on turf to 24 more points the traditional way.

That's 45 points for those of you who aren't able to count that high (Ravens fans mostly), and that was plenty to beat Favre and company, 45-17.

Yup, as I think I mentioned, that didn't all work out like we thought it would.

Defensive struggles turned into lopsided contests, and the shootout became a three hour long joke.

New Englanders ran naked through the snow because of a gift from the NFL rulebook, and we were all left shaking our heads at the whole damn thing.

Don't you just love the playoffs?

Beat the Experts

Each pick has been selected to win contest outright. *If any given game ends in a tie, that game is thrown out of the lineup. Beat the "Experts"* is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college sports. Whichever Guest Handicapper posts the best winning percentage during their week will be selected as *Hamilton's Athlete of the Week* (honorary) in the final issue of this semester and will be entitled to all the perks therein, namely an all-expense paid dinner with our devilishly attractive **Sports Editors, Greg and Chuck, as well as his or her picture in *The Spectator*.**

Specially Selected Sporting Events	**Chris Preston** ***Spectator*** ***I&I Editor*** **Last Week: -** **To date: 0-0**	**Lauren Reynolds** ***Spectator*** ***I&I Editor*** **Last Week: -** **To date: 0-0**	**Andy Horner** ***Spectator*** ***Managing Editor*** **Last Week: -** **To date: 0-0**	**Dan Kaufmann** ***Spectator*** ***I&I Contributor*** **Last Week: -** **To date: 0-0**	**Chuck Spiliotis** ***Spectator*** ***Sports Editor*** **Last Week: -** **To date: 0-0**	**Greg Ghiozzi** ***Spectator*** ***Sports Editor*** **Last Week: -** **To date: 0-0**
NBA						
Minnesota at Toronto 1/25	Timberwolves	Timberwolves	Timberwolves	Raptors	Timberwolves	Raptors
Philadelphia at Boston 1/25	Celtics	76ers	Celtics	Celtics	Celtics	Celtics
San Antonio at LA Lakers 1/25	Spurs	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers	Spurs	Lakers
Sacramento at Utah 1/26	Kings	Kings	Kings	Kings	Kings	Kings
NCAA						
UConn at Arizona 1/26	Wildcats	Huskies	Wildcats	Wildcats	Wildcats	Wildcats
Stanford at USC 1/26	Trojans	Trojans	Cardinal	Cardinal	Trojans	Tojans
UVA at Duke 1/26	Cavs	Blue Devils	Cavs	Blue Devils	Blue Devils	Blue Devils
NFL						
Philadelphia at St. Louis 1/27	Rams	Eagles	Rams	Rams	Rams	Rams
New England at Pittsburgh 1/27	Patriots	Steelers	Steelers	Steelers	Patriots	Steelers

If you think that you can beat these "experts," drop us a line and we will try to get you in. Write "I can beat the experts" on a piece of paper and add your name, then fold it and address it to the sports editor at *The Spectator*. Drop it in campus mail and if you're randomly selected, you'll quickly receive a form for you to make your picks.

Think you know a lot about sports? Great. We already have enough writers.

Continentals have first place in sights

by Charles Spiliotis '03
Sports Editor

The men's hockey team bounced back from a pair of tough losses last week to win a pair of road games at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and Skidmore this past weekend. The Continentals improved their league record to an impressive 8-2-1 and 9-5-1 overall, a mere two points out of a first-place tie with Middlebury and Bowdoin.

"We're playing much better defense right now. We're backchecking, covering the entire zone, and forcing less shots and less goals. Our goalies have also been stepping up lately and keeping us in the game. Matt Jones ('04) and Rob McNeil ('05) are both young and were a little inexperienced early in the year, but they've both been improving lately and are keeping us in games," said coach Phil Grady.

Against Salem State, the Conts fell down 4-0 before mounting a comeback and evening the score late in the second. But the Vikings were too much and finished strong to record the 7-5 win. Next was Oswego, who came into Sage sporting a top ten national ranking and a 6-1 league record. The game was a physical, defensive struggle, and it went into the third scoreless on both ends. After falling behind 1-0 five minutes into the third, Tom Ditzer '04 netted a power-play goal with just under four minutes to play. The contest went into overtime, before Oswego's Andy Rozak notched the game-winner, wasting a brilliant 35 save performance from Jones.

PHOTO BY LINDSAY GRIFFITHS '02

Defensemen David Racine (5) handles the puck in open ice during Saturday's game.

"Since the Plattsburgh tournament in December, I feel like we're a stronger team every weekend than we were the weekend before. If we keep making these improvements, then we'll be in good shape when the playoffs roll around," said Grady.

This past weekend, Hamilton traveled to Massachusetts College to take on a team that's always dangerous in its home rink. The small, loud environment gives the Mohawks a big edge, but the Conts were prepared. After allowing an early goal on a two-man advantage, they responded with four unanswered goals. Nicolas Potvin '02 had the tying goal, followed by team scoring leader Rob Gordon '03, Kevin Audit '03, and freshman sensation Elliot Altberg '05. Despite a late push by Mass. College, Hamilton didn't look back and grabbed the 5-3 victory.

Audit said, "The defense has just progressed so much from the beginning of the year. We're starting to play some really tough teams, but I think that we're ready for them. Our offense has been there all year, but the defense and our goalkeeping too has been putting us in position to win these 4-2 and 3-1 games, and that's what we need to do. If we keep working hard, we'll only get better."

Saturday's game at Skidmore turned quickly into a laugher, as Hamilton played some of its best hockey and the Thoroughbreds were clearly overmatched. Hamilton's special teams illustrated its continued improvement as the Conts managed a season-high four power-play goals and nine overall. Craig Leger '02, Matt Harrison '03, and Altberg each registered a pair, and Skidmore managed only 22 shots on the way to a 9-1 Hamilton win.

"Our special teams has really come on since January. Our power-play team has had a lot of success, and the penalty-killing unit has been very strong. Our whole team has been on the same page, with balanced assignments, everyone finishing their checks, and a lot more hitting," said Grady.

This weekend the Conts will take on St. Anselm's on Friday and New England College on Saturday in its second-to-last home weekend of the year. Only two points out of first, Hamilton will need every win it can get if it hopes to have a chance at either a first-round bye or to host a playoff game in the tournament.

Grady added, "We need to continue to take the next step. These two teams are better than the two last weekend, but we'll have our loud, hometown contingent to help us out. If we can keep improving like we have been, and play a physical, hard 60 minutes, we should have a good weekend."

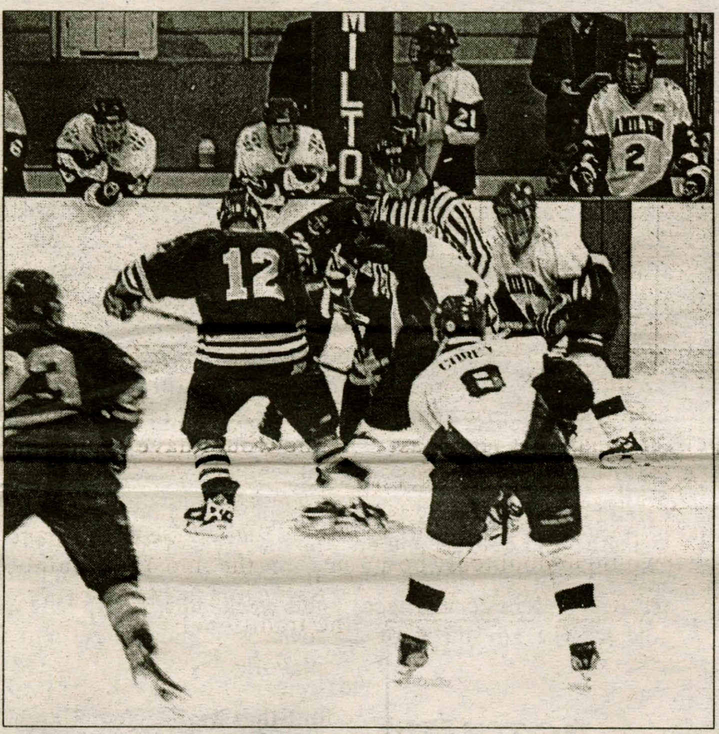

PHOTO BY LINDSAY GRIFFITHS '02

Tom Ditzer (12) battles for positioning before the puck is dropped.

Swim teams ready after rigorous training

by Josh Sargen '05
Sports Writer

Following a rigorous training session, Hamilton's men's and women's swimming teams appear ready for successful second halves to their seasons.

The Continentals traveled to Coral Springs, Florida, over break for ten days of conditioning and swimming. Swimmers were in the water twice each day and swam seven to eight miles a day. Despite the appealing sound of Florida in January, the team routinely endured forty-degree evenings while they trained.

Nevertheless, despite cold temperatures and strenuous practice schedules, coach Dave Thompson said, "Everyone on the team looks forward to this trip. We even got some serious beach time in."

After returning from Florida, the Continentals faced Middlebury in a testing meet. According to Coach Thompson, "Most people were very tired and we had mixed reactions in the pool."

The men defeated the Panthers 127-110 while the women fell 161-82.

Each team had little time to rest following the Middlebury meet. Hamilton continued training on campus for another week before the start of the spring semester. All together, the team trained for over two weeks during winter break.

On Thursday, January 24th, the Continentals will have their first opportunity to see how beneficial their weeks of training were. Amherst visits Bristol Pool with an impressive 6-1 record. Two days later, the Continentals travel to Union for what promises to be a challenging meet.

Women's Basketball goes 2-4 over winter break

by Paul Kibbe '05
Sports Writer

The women's basketball team played six games over the winter break winning two and losing four over the stretch. It lost a close game at home, 72-68, to Elmira College. Anna Jablonski '05 had a very strong performance with 27 points and 18 rebounds in the loss. They lost again, this time to RPI, 76-62. Holly Erick '04 had one of her best performances of the year in the loss, scoring 17 points with 14 rebounds. They bounced back, though, with an easy win over Vassar College, 81-57. The Continentals were led by Tricia Czeski's('05) 21 and Jen Munoz's('04) 20 points in the win. The team then played three games away, the first being a loss at Williams. Munoz had 16 points, but it was not enough in the 87-61 loss. The team then played a tough game against Union but came out with a 70-60 loss. Karen Pogonowski '02 had 12 points and Jablonski had 13 rebounds in the loss. The team finished the road trip with a win over Skidmore, 62-50. Jenny Russell '02 and Munoz each had 10 points in the Continental win.

"We started to improve each game over break. One of our problems was starting slow in the first half and we would try to make it up in the second half, but it would be too much. When we start strong we can win any game," said Czeski.

Before their game on Tuesday night, the Continentals were 6-5 on the year and 2-2 in the UCAA conference. Tuesday night the team played at home against league foe William Smith. The game was back and forth for the entire 40 minutes, but in the end William Smith was too strong, winning 65-51. "We played a pretty good game; we hustled," said Czeski, "they just had a run and we couldn't catch up. Overall though, it was a decent game."

Hamilton took a one point lead, 24-23, into the locker room at the half, but William Smith came out strong in the second half, scoring 42 points to Hamilton's 27. Russell and Erick were the leading scorers in the game, each with 10 points. Jablonski also pulled down 16 rebounds for the Continentals.

The loss dropped the Continentals to 2-3 in league play. They get a chance to get back to.500 again in the conference on Friday night, when they play at home against Clarkson. Clarkson is 7-8 on the year, and like the Continentals, 2-3 in the UCAA conference.

"I do not know much about them but from what I hear they are not the strongest team. But we obviously can't overlook them," said Czeski, "we just have to play our game and hopefully we will win."

Sports

Men's Basketball gains experience

by Andy Horner '03
MANAGING EDITOR

If the old sports theory that adversity brings a team closer together is true, then the Hamilton men's basketball team must be finishing each other's sentences by now. During a winter break schedule that included two tournaments, an away game against Division I Davidson, and numerous other non-conference and conference games, the team was able to further develop its already potent run and gun attack, as well as to improve a sometimes stifling defense.

The Continentals' break started with a 2456 mile road trip to Las Vegas, Nevada, to participate in the DIII Desert Classic, a tournament in which many of the top DIII schools in the nation participate each winter. After winning their first game, the men ran up against the 20th ranked DIII school in the country, the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. The Continentals gave their opponents a good game, but eventually fell by a score of 93-83. As usual, power forward Joe Finley '03 paced the Continentals with 22 points and five rebounds. Point guard Greg Leone '04 also displayed a scoring touch, as he hit for 19 points.

"It's always good to play against good competition," explained Hamilton coach Tom Murphy, "and it helped us get better, so we were pretty happy with the trip."

Describing Hamilton's next opponent as good competition would be an understatement, as Hamilton faced off against Davidson in front of almost 1500 fans in North Carolina. Despite losing 85-49, Murphy felt the Hamilton men held their own, especially in the second half.

"We were a little intimidated at the beginning of the game, and we kind of dug ourselves a hole that we couldn't get out of," he commented. "We did play much better in the second half."

Four days later, the Davidson squad hosted the top team in the nation, Duke University, and was spanked by the Blue Devils 106-71. Thus both parts of President Eugene Tobin's "We beat Davidson, Davidson beats Duke, Hamilton is the top team in the country" plan fell through.

"The two trips definitely helped to bring the team to another level," said Finley. "We played against some really tough competition and we are really playing well now as a result of it."

The Continentals put their hard-earned experience to work by hosting and winning the Hamilton Invitational. The final game pitted the Continentals against conference rival Colby College, and Hamilton crushed the White Mules, 89-62. Shooting guard Kevin Yanni led the way with 16 points, and Finley controlled the boards by hauling in a team-high 12 rebounds.

Following that victory was a string of six games, with five of the contests being conference games. Hamilton started its conference season with a win against Rensselaer, but then dropped a game to a weaker Vassar team. The team shot a stunning 26.7 percent from the field for the game. Finley and center Noah Hammond '02 were the only players on the team to hit at least half of their shots, as Finley led the team with 17 points, and Hammond hit for nine. Forward Joe Smith '04 also scored nine, and corralled nine rebounds.

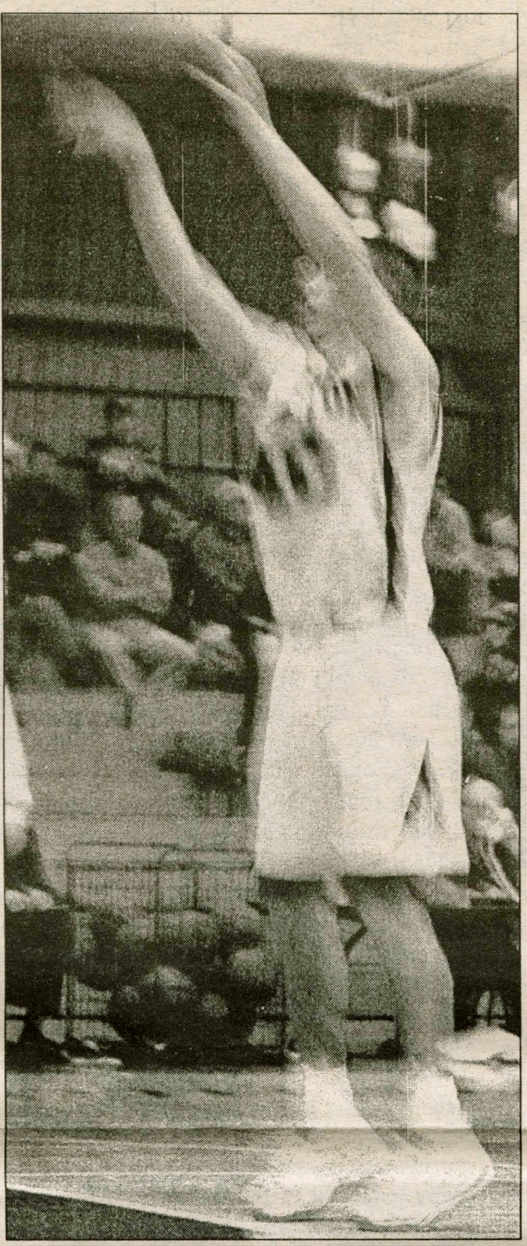
PHOTO BY LINDSAY GRIFFITHS '02
Tim Fesko (22) hits from the line.

"We played terribly against Vassar," said Murphy. "We shot six for 35 in the first half, and suddenly the game was over."

The Continentals proceeded to bounce right back against a highly skilled Williams squad, notching a hard-fought 79-76 victory. With the win, Hamilton had defeated Williams for the first time since the 1997-98 season. In this game the backcourt tandem of Yanni and shooting guard Tim Fesko '03 demonstrated what an effective duo they can be by combining to shoot 4-9 from downtown. Yanni led the team with 19 points, and Fesko dropped eleven in only 12 minutes of action. Injured for the early part of the season, Fesko has been working his way back into the rotation with a series of solid performances, including a 21 point performance in the first game of the Hamilton Invitational.

"Having Fesko in the lineup gives us another opportunity to score from the outside," commented Yanni. "When we are in the game together it puts a lot of pressure on other teams to guard the perimeter, which frees up the big guys."

The Continentals next faced off against Union in another important conference game. It was a back-and-forth affair in which Hamilton bounced back from an eight-point first half deficit. However, despite 26 points from Finley and 16 points and four assists from Leone, the Continentals were defeated, 83-79. The Continentals' ongoing struggle with turnovers may have cost them a chance to win it, as they turned the ball over 19 times in the game.

"Our main focus in cutting down on turnovers," said Leone. "When we turn the ball over, that's when we get ourselves into trouble."

Finley agreed, commenting, "Our main problem in our losses and close games has been turnovers. If we can limit our turnovers, then we can beat just about anyone who we are going to play."

The next game featured yet another conference contest, this time against Skidmore. Led by a breakout performance from shooting guard Staunton Peck '05, the Continentals cruised past their opponents 95-82. Peck hit six of eight from beyond the three-point arc, and knocked down eight of his 12 shots overall en route to a Hamilton career high 23 points.

The Continentals improved to 3-2 in UCAA conference games this past Tuesday by demolishing Hobart, 81-57. Using a solid defense and an effective up-and-down offense, the Continentals were able to take advantage of a poor shooting performance by their opponent. Finley dropped 20 points and ripped down 13 rebounds to lead the Continentals in both categories. Smith grabbed 12 caroms, helping Hamilton to a 48-39 advantage on the boards. Fesko provided the perimeter offense, connecting on four of his seven three-point attempts and scoring 18 points in only 24 minutes of action.

"Offensively, we have a lot of weapons," commented Finley, "so getting enough points shouldn't be a problem. Our starters are all playing well, and our two new guards, Staunton and Tim Fesko have been shooting the ball very well. That just makes it that much more difficult to match up with us."

In a UCAA conference that has no clear top dog, the Continentals are well-poised right now to make a run at the playoffs, which only the top four teams from the conference will make. With three home conference games coming up this weekend and next week, Hamilton must cut down on its turnovers quickly and keep up its offensive and defensive work to ensure itself an opportunity for postseason play.

"It's a crazy league," said Murphy, "and on a given night anybody can beat anybody else. If we can win a couple of games this weekend, it'll go a long way towards helping us get into the playoffs."

Tough Stretch Upcoming for Women's Hockey

by Zach Kubin '05
SPORTS WRITER

The Conts began 2002 with a meeting against R.I.T. exactly one month after their last game. While suffering a 2-1 overtime loss to the visiting Tigers, Hamilton looked a bit rusty coming out of the gates but seemed to excel as the game went on.

"Having not played competitively for about a month really hurt us in the beginning. But as the game wore on we became more comfortable despite losing in OT," said Emily Koren '03, the lone goal scorer for the Conts.

After the OT loss, the team traveled to Henniker, New Hampshire, to visit the women of New England College. Not letting the six-hour trip affect them, the Conts were focused and ready for action. Hat tricks by Marissa Halligan '05 and Paula Dady '03, as well as a five-assist performance by Eden Self '05, led to 10-0 Hamilton drubbing, getting the team right where it wanted to be.

"We had a lot of success tonight; this is the best we've played so far this season," said Heather Hoffay '03, who also notched a goal and four assists in the win.

One night after the offensive success at N.E.C., the team had a tougher opponent in Amherst. Historically, the Jefs have had a strong hockey tradition, but they have been struggling this year. They were 3-6 before meeting up with the ladies of Hamilton College. Led by freshman sensation Halligan's two goals and two assists, Hamilton squeaked by with a 5-4 win.

A 5-1 win in the ensuing game against Cortland State put the Conts at 6-7 on the year, before consecutive losses to powerhouses Williams and Middlebury.

The team now is in sole possession of 5th place in the NESCAC with a 3-6 record. Upcoming games against Colby, Bowdoin, and Colgate is the toughest stretch of the year for the Conts and should give the ladies more than their share of good competition.

Scoreboard

Men's Basketball	11-4
Women's Basketball	5-5
Men's Hockey	9-5-1
Women's Hockey	6-9
Men's Squash	4-2
Women's Squash	0-6
Men's Indoor Track	1-0
Women's Indoor Track	1-0